

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION - 4/21-22/15
THE MISSION OF JESUS: ACTS 1:1-11



SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1-11

BIG IDEA

Picking up where the Gospel of Luke left off, the book of Acts describes how Jesus, having finished his mission in his life, death, and resurrection, begins to build his kingdom on earth through the power of the Holy Spirit. All the founders of major world religions have done everything they're going to do and said everything they're going to say, save One. Jesus is just getting started (Acts 1:1). Jesus' mission now is to advocate for Christians, empower Christians through the Holy Spirit, and to make disciples of all nations through Christians and the gospel they proclaim. Is Jesus your Advocate? Are you on the same mission that Jesus is on?

DISCUSSION

Put yourself in the shoes of the early church. They were listening to the resurrected Jesus commission them, "And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight." (Acts 1:9)

1. What would you do or think if you were there?
2. Was there anything from the sermon, the big idea, or Acts 1:1-11 that **stood out** to you, **challenged** you, or **confused** you?
3. How does Luke 1:1-4 help us understand why we can trust the book of Acts?
4. How does Luke (the author of Acts) distinguish Jesus from other founders of religions, faiths, or philosophies in Acts 1:1-11?
5. What is the significance of Jesus ascending back to heaven? What does it mean for Jesus to be someone's Advocate with God the Father? Can you think of any Bible verses that speak of Jesus as our Advocate or interceding for us?
6. In Acts 1:8, what does Jesus say we are empowered to do and what does he mean? What do you need to change in your life to make sure your focus is living the mission Jesus has called you to live?