



April 11th Discussion Guide

MISSION

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This is a 12 week study through the Book of Acts. Content for this discussion guide is based on the sermon, so participation in weekly worship will enhance the conversation on this topic. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#)

Prayer

Open your group in prayer.

Icebreaker (10 min)

Share a favorite Easter tradition or memory with the group.

Discussion (30 min)

1. Read Acts 1. What promises did Jesus give in this passage? What command's did He also give? How have these promises and commands impacted your life?
2. Why and how was Judas replaced? How could this process determine how you make future decisions?
3. Read Matthew 28:18-20. What was Jesus' mission for the people after He was taken up to heaven?
4. Discuss what distracts us from this mission:
 - a. We don't feel called or qualified: Read 1 Peter 2:9, Romans 8:16-17, Acts 1:8. Søren Kierkegaard said "every human being comes to earth with sealed orders". Who is called to implement Jesus' mission? How are you equipped for this mission?
 - b. The world and culture gets in the way: Read John 15:19, John 17:14-16, 1 John 2:15, Romans 12:2. How can we be witnesses of Jesus no matter what is happening in the world?
 - c. We forget how high the stakes are: Read Matthew 5:14-16. What will happen if Jesus' followers do not lead, serve, give, teach truth, etc.?
 - d. We forget the promises: What does Jesus promise in Matthew 28:20b? Share with your group how Jesus has kept His promise to be with you and to give you power.
5. **Application questions:** What are your "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, or ends of the earth" where you are called to witness? In your current occupation or role in everyday life, how can you be on mission for Jesus?

Closing Prayer

LORD, you have equipped, empowered, challenged, and changed us! Show us where we can be Your witnesses and reveal Yourself and Your Power to us so we are not distracted by fear, culture, or anything else that will stand in the way of Your message of salvation.

