

Sermon Study Guide  
From May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
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Acts 1:1-8 NRS Acts 1:1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning 2 until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Notes: 3 main points were taken from this text for the sermon. First, that we are given "power" for the task God gives us. Second, that we are given a "job description." Finally, that we are given a "map" for where to follow Christ's kingdom work.

**Questions:**

1. We've talked a lot about mission this year and what that's about. Tell the group what you have personally learned this year about following Christ, being sent by Christ, doing justice, etc.
2. How does God give you "power" for the work he calls you? Are you experiencing that in any way right now? Is there a specific situation you need his power for?
3. How are you a "witness" to Christ in your life? Are there any relationships where you'd like to do this more? How are you experiencing God for yourself that you could give witness to?
4. Which of the four areas of the map that Christ sends us to feels most natural or obvious to you? Where are you drawn? Have you been blind to any of the other areas.
5. Pray for each other's upcoming summers as a way to wrap up the semester.
6. You might want to take time to recognize how you saw people grow this semester.