

**Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Series: **“Living a Resurrected Life”**

Message: **“Growing Before Going”**

Sermon Text: **Acts 1:4-11**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 84:1-12**; Gospel Text: **Luke 24:44-53**.

Read **Acts 1:4-11** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. What did Jesus instruct His disciples to wait for before leaving Jerusalem?

How did Luke describe this in **Luke 24:49**?

2. According to **Acts 1:6**, what were the disciples hoping Jesus was about ready to do?

What did their preoccupation with this idea reveal about the disciples’ understanding of the Messiah’s true purpose?

3. How did Jesus answer their question to get it off their minds?

4. In **Acts 1:9**, Jesus said the disciples would *receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you*. According to Pastor Dave, what kinds of power would they have received?

5. What were the words spoken by the two angels intended to do?

6. According to Pastor Dave, how long after Jesus's ascension into heaven did the disciples receive the Holy Spirit?
7. By doing this on Pentecost, what did God ensure would happen?
8. How many people groups did Pastor Dave say heard the truth of God's love in their own language?
9. Name some of the places this ensured the gospel would be carried.
10. Are the disciples now the only ones responsible for being Christ's *witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth?*"
11. What will you remember most from this message?

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 84:1-12** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:  
**(This Psalm is thought to be the prayer of a Levite who can no longer enter the Lord's temple due to the occupying Assyrian army.)**
  1. As you read **vv. 1-4**, what do you learn about the psalmist?
  2. **Verse 2** reveals the psalmist's deep longing for the temple and a closer relationship with the Lord. Have there ever been times in your life when this verse described your heart?
  3. **Vv. 5-7** describe those who find their strength in the Lord. The Valley of Baca is an arid valley. What does the psalmist say those who trust in the Lord are like in that dry & barren land?
  4. What does that imply that our presence as believers should do in a dry and thirsty world?
  5. **Verses 8-11** are thought to be a prayer on behalf of the king in Jerusalem. What do you think is the psalmist's ultimate motivation in praying for the king?
  6. What does the psalmist communicate to us about God in these verses?
  7. How does **v. 12** nicely summarize the psalmist's heart?
- II. Next read **Luke 24:44-53**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
  1. What is Jesus referring to in **Luke 24:44**?
  2. It says in **Luke 24:45** Jesus *opened their minds to understand the scriptures*. What do you think Jesus did to accomplish this?
  3. When you read **Luke 24:46-48** what do you think went through the disciples' minds as they heard Jesus speak these words?
  4. Why is the disciples' obedience to **v. 49** imperative if they are to carry out Jesus's commands?
  5. Why does **Luke 24:50-53** give you a better glimpse into the disciples' hearts than **Acts 10-11**?
- III. Read **Acts 1:4-11**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
  1. What did Jesus instruct His disciples to wait for before leaving Jerusalem?
  2. How did Luke describe this in **Luke 24:49**?

3. According to **Acts 1:6**, what were the disciples hoping Jesus was about ready to do?
4. What did their preoccupation with this idea reveal about the disciples' understanding of the Messiah's true purpose?
5. How did Jesus answer their question to get it off their minds?
6. In **Acts 1:9**, Jesus said the disciples would *receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you*. According to Pastor Dave, what kinds of power would they have received?
7. What were the words spoken by the two angels intended to do?
8. According to Pastor Dave, how long after Jesus's ascension into heaven did the disciples receive the Holy Spirit?
9. By doing this on Pentecost, what did God ensure would happen?
10. How many people groups did Pastor Dave say heard the truth of God's love in their own language?
11. Name some of the places this ensured the gospel would be carried.
12. Are the disciples now the only ones responsible for being Christ's *witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth?*"