



# STUDY GUIDE

## EMPOWERED 01.17.2016

### [set up]

Answer one of the two questions below and share your answer if you are in your LifeGroup:

- Think of a situation in your life when you felt powerless. What did you need in that moment to feel more empowered to handle the situation?
- Think of a time when you felt empowered by God in a situation? How did the Lord help you in that moment or season?

### [digging deeper]

This Sunday we started a new series called “Empowered” where we will look at the first section of the book of Acts. Read the passage from this last weekend – Acts 1:1-12.

- What stood out the most to you from these verses?
- What was encouraging or affirming from these verses?
- What was challenging or difficult for you in these verses?

Acts – basic 411

- Who wrote the book of Acts?
- What other Bible book is it a “sequel” to?
- Who was it written to and why?
- When in the timeline of the life of Jesus were these opening verses referring to?

The disciples were told to wait in Jerusalem. What were they to wait for? (Joel 2:28, 29; Luke 24:49) When have you had to wait on God? Why is waiting on God so hard? How has He empowered you to wait?

Acts 1:8 is the overall theme and “mission statement” of the entire book of Acts. In light of Acts 1:8, how do we accurately understand the plan and purpose of God’s empowerment? (Who empowers us? How are we empowered? For what purpose are we empowered?)

Draw a diagram that illustrates how we are to live out Acts 1:8. How can we understand “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth” literally? Relationally? According to your geographical location?

After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples stayed on the Mount of Olives momentarily then left for Jerusalem to wait and receive the empowerment God was going to give them through the Holy Spirit. What if they would have never left the mountain, but instead just stayed there to try and preserve the special moment of the ascension? How do we sometimes “stay on the mountain” rather than go to “Jerusalem” to receive what God has for us?

\*Make sure you watch the CVC blog site for incoming posts related to some of the theological nuances found in the book of Acts, especially related to the Holy Spirit.

## **[living it out]**

What growth areas did this study reveal for you?

We were challenged Sunday to memorize Acts 1:8 and regularly pray, “Lord, help me to live empowered by Your Spirit” How does knowing, memorizing and living out Acts 1:8 help me BE a disciple and GROW other disciples?

What have I done to be a witness for Christ in my Jerusalem (LifeHouse especially)? In my Judea? In my Samaria? To the ends of the earth? What is one way I can live out God’s Holy Spirit Empowerment in each of these areas moving forward?