

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

## welcome to the journey

### Session 1: 'Purpose & Power'

#### IN - helping a sense of belonging...

Have you ever had to wait for something? What was your experience? How did you feel when you finally got it?

#### UP - hearing from God and growing...

Put yourself in the disciples shoes. What had they been through in the last few months? In verses 4-6 where are they? What are they experiencing? What is the significance and hope in their question?

Look at verses 7-8, what was Jesus reply? What strikes you by what he says?

It seems that Jesus shifts their focus: the growth of the Kingdom is not something to simply sit comfortably to wait for... but something that God is going to bring about in and through them.

Take a look at the extent of their call (verse 8), these were mostly uneducated men & women of low social standing, only 120 of them... what do you think was going through their minds?

The writer of Acts (Luke), always emphasises the role of the Holy Spirit to empower mission, so that the church can fulfil its purpose - what is your experience of the Holy Spirit?

#### OUT - impacting others...

Pray for one another, asking God to empower you to be his witnesses. Pray for the different locations you are in (home /work etc) Pray also for our church that God's power would be working through all that we do, drawing others to him.

#### BIBLE READING: Acts 1:4-8

4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**LIFEGroup  
Notes**