



Sermon Growth Guide

October 18, 2020

The Beautiful Story - Beautiful Mission

Acts 1:1-11

Key Verse: Acts 1:8

“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.”

Big Idea: God empowers you to witness His salvation to everyone around you.

Foundations

Last week Christ rose from the dead. He beat death itself. O Death, where is your sting? Is there anything left to say or do?

Paul writes in Romans 10:17, “Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.” **The Beautiful Story** continues this week by Jesus empowering His disciples to carry the Good News of salvation forward to all peoples, to the end of the earth.

Think about this, the Good News of salvation came to us here in Colorado through 2,000 years of God’s people sharing the Good News (and traveling around the world), passing down the gospel from generation to generation, declaring that there is Light and Life in Jesus.

The Ascension of Christ was the trigger point that was willed by the Father for the descending of the Holy Spirit, the empowerment God’s people needed then and need now to carry out the Great Commission.

Next week we wrap up this 11-week series by looking at the **Beautiful Kingdom**. Open and close your time of further study and application in prayer. Ask the Spirit of God to guide and guard your time in His Word—and to empower you each and every day as you witness His love to everyone around you.

Understanding God’s Word

The book of Acts opens with these words: “in my former book...,” referring to the book of Luke. Read the final 10 verses of Luke and discuss the overall context we find ourselves in this week.

The disciples miss the point (again!) in verse 6. What are they wanting and how do we slip into the same misguided thinking today?

Host a conversation around verse 8 and the call to be a witness to the resurrection.

Applying God’s Word

This week we are reminded that God empowers us to witness His salvation to everyone around us.

How can you be a better witness to the love and grace of God this week? Maybe you need to begin to build a new habit. Maybe you need to break a bad habit. Be specific.

Witnessing God’s Word

The **Beautiful Mission** is about God’s people living so radically for God that the world sees the love of God being poured out before them. Think of one person who needs a Kingdom witness. Take a moment to close your time by praying for this person. Identify a way in which you can witness the love of God to this person this week.