

Marinating in God's Word: Acts 1:8

Jesus' direction led his disciples to launch the ten-day prayer meeting that led to Pentecost. And his direction showed part of what the Lord intended his Pentecost Spirit to do in us.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- Our verse today begins with “But,” as in, “not that, but this...” What is the “that” in v. 6-7. And what does he mean by “this” in v. 8? Both tap into power. Of what sort? How are they different?
- Verse 8 seems to give an outline of Acts, with an ever-broadening reach of the gospel. Where do these four (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, ends) show up in Acts? Name some ways that your mission and witness have spread over the course of your Christian life beyond where they began.
- Recall a time when you were able to engage with someone very different than yourself about Jesus (maybe telling them about Jesus, praying with them, etc). What happened?
- How do Christian people, or you yourself, build bridges to people who are usually cut off from them/you – socially, ethnically, etc?
- Let's imagine that you had ten hours every week for serving the Lord. How might you divide the hours between these activities: corporate worship, individual prayer, Bible study, evangelism outreach to non-believers, justice/reconciliation work in the community? What shapes your priorities here? Would you recommend the same priorities for all?