



WEEK 1 DEVOTIONAL

RADIUS | The Sweep, Reach & Results of Christian Missions

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to **Acts 1:1–8**, two times. Before and after each reading, pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scriptures. Consider, what does God want you to reflect on and learn from?

REFLECT

1. How well do you handle change? Reflecting on the disciple's journey to Jerusalem, Jesus being crucified, having to scatter, Jesus rising from the grave, and now being told to scatter once more. If you were in the disciple's shoes, how would you feel? Emotionally? Physically? Spiritually? Socially?
2. According to verse 6, what was the focus and concern of the disciples? Reading through verse 8, what was the focus and concern of Jesus?
3. Does your focus and concern match more with the disciples or Jesus?
4. Using the following passages as a guide, how can someone accomplish the Greatest Commandment?
 - John 20:21
 - Matthew 22:34–40
 - John 13:34

- Luke 4:16–21
- Luke 10:25–37
- Matthew 25:31–46
- John 16:33
- Mark 9:35
- Micah 6:8
- Jeremiah 29:7
- Matthew 5:16; Acts 2:42–47

5. Using the following passages as a guide, how can someone accomplish the Great Commission?

- Matthew 28:19–20
- Luke 15; Luke 14:15–24
- Luke 19:10
- Matthew 5:13
- Matthew 5:14–15

6. In practical terms what can you do to share the message and love of Jesus with the love of Jesus in your “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and ends of the earth?” Be as specific as possible. Define what and how that looks for you. Work together as a group and define that for yourselves as a small group.

RESPOND

Live out the challenge of Jesus by going into your...

- **Jerusalem** | Serve in some way at Christ Church, we have many opportunities available. <https://christchurch.us/servehere>
- **Judea** | Participate in Serve Chicagoland on October 22. <https://www.christchurch.us/forchicagoland>
- **Samaria** | Volunteer on our disaster relief team. <https://christchurch.us/naturaldisasters>
- **Ends of the earth** | Educate yourself to pray more intentionally or give more generously to support our global mission partners. <https://christchurch.us/servefar>

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1–8 | New International Version

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 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 baptized with^[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with^[b] 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.”

