

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

Lord, awaken us to the responsibility of your mission and the power you have given us to carry it out.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:1-16, Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 2:3-5, Romans 8:10-11, Ephesians 3:20-21

ICEBREAKER AND OPENING THOUGHT

Use the icebreaker to examine how group members would spend their time and resources if they felt no worldly constraints. Encourage members to think about what gifts and talents they possess. Discuss how we each have a role in the Jesus mission, in everything we do, big and small. Turn the conversation to this week's topic regarding how we are entrusted to carry the message of Jesus in our day to day life.

BIBLE STUDY

As you discuss Acts 1:8, get the group to discuss how this verse makes them feel. Do they get a sense of the call to action of this verse? Is the group inspired by the verse, or even fearful? Being asked to participate in God's mission sounds daunting; it might make some think that mere humans are not up to the task. Focus the discussion on the Lord's promises that we are meant to fulfill his mission through the power of his Holy Spirit.

LIFE APPLICATION

Discuss what the mission is – helping people find their way back to God. What exactly does that mean, and how can we define it for someone that may be new to Christianity. Have group members share the challenges they have living out the mission of Jesus, especially if they are new to the faith. You will also want to hear from those who have faced challenges and overcame them or even failed. Draw out from the group what they have learned that can help them and others now? There are many reasons why the mission of Jesus is urgent. This week's talk emphasized eternal destiny, but there are more reasons why the mission is critical. Some people are lonely and feeling rejected. There are also oppressed people and injustices that happen every day that are at odds with the Kingdom of Jesus. The mission of Jesus is to be a blessing to all people; there is so much that is wrong that can only be healed by the community of God's people living out the way of Jesus. In light of the current pandemic and restrictions in place, help group members brainstorm how we can still use the B.L.E.S.S. Practices to reach others. Focus the conversation on the encouraging truth that we are not meant to do any of this under our power – our faith "might not rest on human wisdom but on God's power.

CHALLENGE

An often-quoted saying that has origins in Biblical truth is "With great power comes great responsibility." In Luke 12:48, it says, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." With this in mind, focus on the following prayer this week and be open to where God wants you to be and what actions he is encouraging you to take in his mission – "Lord, awaken us to the responsibility of your mission and the power you have given us to carry it out."