

Reflect: What can we learn from this about how we can see success in the mission of God?

Conclude this time with a few moments to reflect and write down 3 practical things (they don't have to be big) that you can do this week to promote the mission of God.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Once you've done this, share your ideas and pray for each other in this.



Acts: Go

Growth Group Study Guide

Week 8

“The Key to Successful Mission”

13 February 2022

Acts 8: 1-8, 26-40

Series Overview:

The Book of Acts is the second part of the writing from Luke (the first part was the Gospel of Luke). Acts is a dynamic book detailing the beginning of Christ's Church, as the good news of Jesus Christ spread from 120 ordinary people, to the worldwide movement we see today. In Matthew 28: 18-20, we read how Jesus commissioned His followers to “Go”, and in the book of Acts we see the outworking of that commission. As we spend a few weeks digesting the stories and truths from Acts, our desire and prayer is that we will discover afresh, the hope, passion and dynamic of a small group of people, transformed by the love of Christ and empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit to witness to God's great plan for all people.

Last week at our 'Launch Sunday' we were challenged to bring our mission 'to be and make disciples' into special focus in our life together through 2022. But what is the key if we're to be successful in this mission?

Start by each imagining you've been set a major project at school or work or home. After taking a minute or two to reflect, share with each other your imagined project, and then outline the steps you might take to tackle the project.

The mission of God '...to be and make disciples' is our biggest and most important project.

Review Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8

The early disciples were told to wait for the Holy Spirit but I wonder if they were tempted to start making plans as they waited, drawing up priorities and allocating responsibilities to tackle this greatest of projects.

Read Acts 8:1-3

How are things looking for the early believers at this point? How do you think they might be feeling about the mission God had given them, their plans if they had any, and how it was going so far?

How was it actually going? (hint: read v4)

Read about Philip's time in Samaria vv5-25. Remember that Jews and Samaritans weren't on good terms. What evidence do you see in this section that the mission of God is going forward?

- What evidence do you see of Philip's role in promoting the mission of God?
- What evidence do you see of the role of the Holy Spirit in promoting the mission of God?

Reflect: What can we learn from this about how we can see success in the mission of God?

Read about Philip's interaction with the Ethiopian eunuch vv26-40.

- What evidence do you see of Philip's role in promoting the mission of God?
- What evidence do you see of the role of the Holy Spirit in promoting the mission of God?