Mission and Ministry Sunday

BIBLE STUDY

*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.*

Acts 1:8

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**LOOKING AT THE TEXT**

1. Relate the context of Jesus’ words recorded in Acts 1:8.
2. What promise does Jesus make in this verse?
3. How did Jesus fulfill this promise to his disciples?
4. What was the impact of the first Pentecost on Jesus’ disciples?
5. Why was it so necessary for those first disciples to receive the Holy Spirit and his power?

**FOR DISCUSSION**

1. AGREE or DISAGREE? The more faithfully WELS members attend Bible classes and worship services, the better witnesses they will be.
2. AGREE or DISAGREE? Without the Spirit’s power, our witness is not much different from that of those first disciples prior to Pentecost.
3. How does the Spirit’s power help us in our witness today?

*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. Acts 1:8*

**LOOKING AT THE TEXT**

1. What is a witness?
2. How were Jesus’ first disciples unique witnesses? (See Acts 1:21,22)
3. How are Jesus’ first disciples still being his witnesses today?
4. Note that the Greek word translated “witness” is the equivalent of our English word “martyr.” Why do you think that is?

**FOR DISCUSSION**

1. AGREE or DISAGREE? To be a Christian is to be a witness.
2. AGREE or DISAGREE? You can be a witness for Jesus even without using words.
3. How did those early disciples suffer as a result of their witness?
4. How do we suffer today as a result of our witness?
5. How does our participation in a church and church body help us in our witness?

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**LOOKING AT THE TEXT**

1. What direction did Jesus give his disciples with regard to their witnessing?
2. Humanly speaking, how could Jesus’ words been have been overwhelming to those first disciples?
3. How does the book of Acts illustrate how those first followers of Jesus carried out their assignment?

**FOR DISCUSSION**

1. What is our Jerusalem? Judea? Samaria?
2. AGREE or DISAGREE? We should not be concerned about reaching out to “the ends of the earth” until we have effectively witnessed to our own community and country.
3. How does our fellowship as a group of believers help us to witness to our Jerusalem? Our Judea? Our Samaria? The ends of the earth?