

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | No Other Name

January 12, 2025 | “Clarifying the Mission” | **Acts 1:1–11**

Exposition:

- 1) God’s promise to his disciples: _____
(1:1–5)
- 2) God’s mission for his disciples: _____
(1:6–8)
- 3) God’s assurance to his disciples: _____
(1:9–11)

Application:

- 1) Pray for the Holy Spirit’s _____ to be manifested
_____ in your life
- 2) Don’t sit on the _____ waiting for Jesus to

- 3) Get a biblical, _____ view of God’s
_____ in the world

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Why did Jesus tell his disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem? Why was the Holy Spirit essential to their mission? Why is the Holy Spirit essential to our mission as the church? Why does God want us to operate by the power of the Holy Spirit and not in our own strength? What does that look like for the twenty-first century church?

What were the disciples asking in verse 6 when they said, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” Is this question misguided? How does Jesus respond to it? When will the kingdom of Israel be restored?

GET PERSONAL

The angels assured the disciples that Jesus would return (see Acts 1:11). How does the assurance of Christ’s return make a difference in our daily lives? Why doesn’t God just tell us when he’s returning so that we can be properly prepared for it?

Throughout the NT, there is an expectation that we be watchful for Christ’s return but also that we be witnesses for Christ. How do you balance watchfulness and witness in your spiritual life? What happens when our watchfulness keeps us from faithful witness? What happens when our witness is devoid of watchfulness?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Jesus told his disciples, “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). How was that accomplished in the book of Acts? How is that still being accomplished in our world today? How do you participate in this mission locally and globally? Pray through some “witnessing” opportunities in your life right now. Ask God to open up some new possibilities for you in the days ahead.

ADVANCED QUESTION

What’s the significance of the Mount of Olives for Jesus’s ascension (see Acts 1:12; Luke 24:50–53; Zech 14:1–4)? Why did the angels say, “[He] will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven” (1:11)? What’s the significance of the cloud at Jesus’s ascension (1:9), and thus his return (see Dan 7:13; Matt 24:30; 26:64; Rev 1:7; 14:14)?