

TAKEAWAY

LET'S GO

Witnesses to The World

In line with our goal to be a church of disciples who make disciples, this session is focussed on action, so that we are 'doers of the word' and not just hearers/people who enjoy a good discussion! It encourages focussed practical outcomes in the lives of the individuals in the group so that our discipleship as followers of Jesus is deliberately pursued.

SHARE

When was the last time you got good news? Did you share it with others and what made you do so?

How did you first find out about Jesus? What helped you become a Christian?

INTRODUCTION

Over our new short teaching series called 'Let's Go' we want to help us turn our focus outwards – unpacking God's call on us to 'go and make disciples' and what that looks like globally, locally and personally.

In the book of Acts we see that the Jesus message was to be carried by witnesses to the whole world. The disciples alone could not have got to Judea, Samaria, ends of the earth. It needed – and still needs – many people making disciples in many places.

READ

Acts 1:8

'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.'

DISCUSS

What does the Holy Spirit give us? What does this tell us about God?

What does it mean to be a witness? Is there a choice whether we will be a witness or not?

Why do we need the Holy Spirit's power and why is this power so associated with God's mission?

EXPLAIN

The Greek word for witness and the word martyr are the same (martus).

READ

1 John 3:17-18

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

DISCUSS

What does it look like to love in action and truth?

Serving the poor is a non-negotiable part of being a disciple of Jesus? Discuss.

How do we support being a 'witness' in other locations? What does it look like to be a witness to the poor in our world?

How can we pray for Jesus to be known in other nations, even in tough places?

SHARE

What aspect of poverty concerns you. How can you get involved?

Where do you feel prompted by God to act? What specific thing can you do this week to move forward in following Jesus' command to be a witness? *You may find it helpful to think about how this may look in your personal, local and global witness.*

TRY OUT

Find out more about Pursuit International and the other global mission partners Maybridge supports at maybridge.org.uk/about/global-partners. Pray for them and consider how you can support them as they seek to be a witness to those in poverty.

This week set aside time to pray for others to come to know Jesus and for the opportunities to share Jesus in word and action.

1 Peter 3:15 says: *'Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.'* Consider how you would respond and share Jesus with those in your workplace, family, friendship groups or community.

PRAY

Pray for one another according to anything that came up in the discussion/Takeaway.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to come in power so that you may be equipped to be a witness for Jesus wherever you are, whoever you're with, whatever you're doing.

Ask God to break your heart for what breaks His – injustice, the poor, the sick and broken. You may find it helpful to reflect and pray using a worship song.

The World Needs Jesus: youtube.com/watch?v=Sk6_d-5beTM

Hosanna: youtu.be/4krYqP324YA?si=QbkZtGN35h-A9AJK