LIFEGROUPS

Series: Upside Down **Scripture: *Acts 1:1-2:13*** **Date: April 18-19, 2020**
Message: *Wait for Power*

—[LET'S START]—

Pastor Dale began a new sermon series this week. We're going to be spending time in this series focusing on the book of Acts. What is your favorite book of the Bible? Why?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What do you need prayer for? Take an extended time to pray for our world as we continue to deal with the impact of COVID-19.
2. We began our sermon series this week in Acts 2. For our LifeGroup, let's take a look at Acts 1. Read Acts 1:1-11.
    - What does this passage teach us about God?
    - What does it teach us about humanity?
    - Why is God teaching you in this passage?
3. What do you notice about the strategy of Jesus in Acts 1:8?
4. How does the angels' message in Acts 1:10-11 relate to our lives today?
5. Read Acts 1:12-26.
    - What important issue did Jesus' disciples have to decide in this passage?
    - What does this passage teach us about God and our relationship to Him?
6. Read Acts 2:1-13
    - How did the Holy Spirit work in this passage?
    - What impact did the filling of the Holy Spirit have on the disciples? The community?

—[LET'S ACT]—

In Acts 1:8, Jesus told His disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came up on them. What do you sense the Holy Spirit telling you to do as a result of what we have studied today? How can we live our lives more aware of the Spirit's power and presence in our lives? Let's pray that we might be empowered by the Holy Spirit and ready to be used by God like never before. Come back next time prepared to share how the Holy Spirit has been working in and through you.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- If the church embodies the hope of the world, what should we look like? Not our buildings, but you and me? What is the church going to look like in the months and possibly years ahead? Is it possible we already know? Hasn't Jesus already given us the instructions on how to build the church, His way?
- The book of Acts can show us how to recover what it means to be his church.
- When God manifests His presence through his church it transforms everything around us and in us!
    - When Christ's church is fully controlled by the Holy Spirit it can turn the world upside down!
    - In Acts 17:6, we read what happened through the early church: "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also…" [ESV]
- Three principles Acts 2 teaches us:
    - I/We must learn to wait on God with repentant hearts.
    - Joyfully surrender in a spirit of utter dependence upon God.
    - Actualize by faith the reality of God's indwelling presence in your life and each other.
- If you will learn to wait, depend and actualize his presence that you will experience a Pentecostal outpouring of his presence. Has God allowed us as a church to get displaced to get us ready for an outpouring of his presence in our lives?

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