

DAILY READING PLAN



Week of January 9, 2022
Planting Hope: Foundations
Acts 1:3-8

Day One | Read Acts 1:3-8

³ After his death, [Jesus] presented himself alive to [the Apostles] in many different settings over a period of forty days. ⁴ In face-to-face meetings, he talked to them about things concerning the kingdom of God. As they met and ate meals together, he told them that they were on no account to leave Jerusalem but “must wait for what the Father promised: the promise you heard from me.” ⁵ John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. And soon.” ⁶ When they were together for the last time, they asked, “Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?” ⁷ He told them, “You don’t get to know the time. Timing is the Father’s business. ⁸ What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.”

- As you read this insightful passage, pay close attention to what stands out for you. What are you noticing? If you’ve read this before, what strikes you anew this time? If you’ve never read this before, what questions do you have about this passage. We’ll be focusing on “Foundations” this week. What seems “foundational” in these verses?

Day Two | Read Acts 1:3

- Gathering for worship, investing in Bible studies and small group conversations to be equipped for serving the wider community, and practicing generosity are foundational practices. As you think about the challenges of meeting together physically that we’ve faced over the past two years, what has been the greatest loss, and what would you say is the “silver lining”?

Day Three | Read Acts 1:4a

- Jesus talked with his followers about the Kingdom of God because he wanted them to “know it when they saw it...” Understanding the character of the Kingdom of God is essential for any faith community. Knowing what the Kingdom of God looks like—being able to recognize it wherever it is revealed—whether you’re in a classroom or a coffee shop, in a grocery store or a sanctuary, being aware of how the Spirit brings the kingdom into focus through the local community of faith is foundational. Do you know it when you see it? Where do you see the Kingdom of God being revealed around you? How are you actively part of that? How would you like to become more active?

Day Four | Read Acts 1:4b-5

- Sharing meals together, whether that’s celebrating communion here or providing food for the community through a faith-based organization like Mission Outpost, is always at the heart of what the church does. What is it about sharing food that binds people together? Jesus often said, “I am the bread of life...” Why is that so powerful?

Day Five | Read Acts 1:6-8

- The disciples asked Jesus if he was going to usher in the Kingdom of God right then and there. What do you think the disciples were really asking Jesus? Jesus basically responded with this: “Nope, you’re going to do that. But you won’t be doing that alone. The Spirit will come upon you.” How does knowing that the Spirit is empowering you to be a witness to the Kingdom of God inspire you?