

Closing Prayer

Close with prayer for the spiritual needs of your family, your spiritual family, and people everywhere.



Connection Group Study Guide

For the week of June 2 – June 8

Acts 1:1-11

He Lives! Every Christian Is a Martyr

Opening Prayer

Introduction

Share a story about a time that you saw something so incredible that you felt compelled to share it with the next person you spoke to.

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS TO...

- Memorize Acts 1:1-11.
- Pray for the Spirit's help as I serve as a witness and martyr for God. Strive to share the message of Christ with at least three people.
- Continue seeking out and seizing opportunities for witnessing and service to my community.

Into the Bible

Read Acts 1:1-2 and Luke 1:1-4

What was Luke's writing style? What was his intent? Who do you think some of his primary sources would have been?

Read Acts 1:3-11

What places and major events were referenced throughout Acts 1:1-11?

How did Jesus prepare the disciples for life without Him? Why would this have been so difficult for the apostles to understand?

Read Luke 24:13-49

The truths of Jesus' resurrection and ascension are pivotal to the entire foundation of Christianity. Why is this? What are some of the "many proofs" (Acts 1:3) that demonstrated he was truly alive?

In Acts 1:6, the apostles asked, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Why do you think they wanted to ask this particular question?

After Jesus ascended into heaven, the apostles spent time "gazing into heaven" (v.10) and "worshipping" (Lk 24:52). Why do you think they had this response? Why do you think they were questioned by the two men in white robes?

Connecting

When you think about the future, what plans are you desperate to know about? Do you ask God for His plan or insist on your own?

We sometimes look to the future for promised comfort, relief, security, and provision. In what ways has the Holy Spirit asked you to be faithful with what He's given now? What things are you overlooking or ignoring?

How can you grow as a witness to Jesus' work?

Since Scripture tells us of Jesus' resurrection and ascension, we know He is alive today. Why is this comforting? Do you live in relationship with Jesus as if He is alive? How would that look different?

The Greek word for "witness" is *martyrus*. What added flavor does that bring to the concept of witnessing? What does it mean that Jesus has called us to be His martyrs?