

Acts 1:1-11 Needful Things

Focus: to encourage the church to embrace our mission of being Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth...

Here is a link to a several helpful sermon manuscripts by John Piper on our text:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/sermons/by-scripture/acts/1>

Luke covered similar material in Luke 24.36-53. Read it over for additional insights into our text.

Discussion:

- Compare 1.1-3 with Luke 1.1-4. What can you learn about the following from these verses: the author and his methods; the relationship between Acts and Luke; Theophilus.
- V. 4 implies that we cannot be witnesses without the ministry of the Holy Spirit. How do we sometimes try carry out a “Spirit-less” life/witness?
- What keeps us from embracing our role as witnesses for Christ? How do you think a person's giftedness/skills/temperament all should shape their witness?
- What is the significance of the geographical references in v. 8?
- How ought Jesus' ascension and His return shape our witness?
- Of the four things Jesus stayed to teach His disciples (certainty of His resurrection, kingdom of God, need for the Spirit, witness to the end of the earth), which is most needful for you personally?