

05.06.18 - Faith Promise: Investigate - Ray Deck

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal: Investigate the ways your group members (or group together?) can make a difference in Whatcom County.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- Did anyone learn about a local ministry opportunity you hadn't heard of before?

Background / Reading

Read: Acts 1:6-11

- Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately? (Remind those who share that we'll likely return to their ideas in our discussion!)

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- What are Jesus' final words to his disciples? Can you paraphrase in your own words?
- What does Jesus say will happen after the Holy Spirit comes on the disciples? (Answer: 1. They will receive power, 2. They will be witnesses)
- What kind of power is Jesus talking about?
- Why is it important that Jesus lists the locations they will be witnesses beginning with the closest, all the way to the "ends of the earth"?
- Jesus *doesn't* say, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, OR Judea / Samaria, OR to the ends of the earth." Why does he say "and"? Does this have implications for us and for how we choose to serve, give, or support different ministries?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- What do these final words show us about Jesus' priorities in the world?
- What does it mean to be a witness? Why does Jesus ask this of the disciples and of us?
- How is the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives related to being a witness?
- Are Jesus' final words only for these disciples or are they for us too? How do we know?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- How should Jesus' last words shape the perspective of all Christians--everywhere and at all times?
- What are examples of Your Jerusalem, Judea / Samaria, and the ends of the earth? How do you serve in or support ministries in these different areas?
- What are some ways you are currently or can be a witness here in Whatcom County?
- Are there ways that we as a group can encourage each other in our current ministries?

Closing

- Pray for each other's ministries--even for specific people that each of you is serving or sharing with.