

# A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:

Text for the Week: Message for the Week: Theme for the Week: Where Do We Go from Here?

The Book of Acts

"Acts 29"

We are still writing the Gospel story



# Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Have you ever read the last chapter of a book first? Why or why not?

## **Preparation:**

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

#### Read:

Read Acts 21 out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## **Respond / Reflect:**

When the day comes and "His Story" is finished, and all creation reads it, and we get to your name – because what you've done (or haven't done) to build Christ's Church will be in there – what is it going to say?

When was the last time you took a risk for the Gospel? What risk did you take?

What is the primary work of Christ's Church? What is the believer's primary role?

What is your greatest "take-away" from our journey through the book of Acts?

### "Try It!"

Share with someone from Covenant Church who is not part of your family how you are being shaped and formed by our journey through Acts. Then, ask them how our journey through the book of Acts is shaping and forming them.

#### Prayer:

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you.

God, we pray that our journey through the book of Acts will transform our heart and life and through us, transform the hearts and lives of others. Amen.

## Missional Practice for the Month: Praying with Eyes Open

Normally when we pray, we close our eyes, shut off from the world and focus on what we are saying to God. Praying with eyes open is a missional practice because as we see what is going on around us, the Spirit will prompt us to pray for things that we would probably never have prayed for. We invite you during the month of May, on several different occasions, to go to a public place such as a park, café, school hallway, or shopping center and ask God to help you see what God sees. As God prompts you, pray about what you see. As we begin to pray with our eyes open when we drive to work, shop for groceries, walk the dog, watch our kids ball game, sit in your front yard, etc., God will connect us with the heartbeat of our neighborhood and community, revealing to us his work that we might join with him.

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