

THE PLAN

33. The Temple IV (Acts 1-8) May 1, 2022

Story Coordinates (Acts 1:3-9)

People (Who is the story about?)

Place (Where is their home?)

Presence (How can they meet with God?)

Purpose (What did God tell them to do?)

The Story (Acts 2-8)

- The Spirit of God descended onto Jesus' followers, marking them out as the New _____ and the True _____. (2:1-4, Exodus 40:34-38, Luke 3:16-17)
- Jews from all over the world submitted to Jesus, _____ the scattered Israelites under the _____. (2:5-41, Isaiah 11:10-12)
- The Christian Jews formed a new _____ that finally lived out God's _____ for his people. (2:42-47, 4:32-35)

- As the Christians lived and _____ in Jerusalem, God revealed that his _____ was with them. (3:1-10)

- The Temple leaders felt _____ by the church, and tried to stop them through violent _____. (6:13-14, 7:55-8:3)

- God used the _____ of the Temple leaders to _____ his church out into Judea, Samaria, and the world. (8:1, 4; 11:19)

The Morals

- God is present in this world in and _____ his _____.
- We have the _____—and the _____—to carry the presence of God into every corner of this Earth.
- The powers of this world will _____ us, but they cannot _____ the Spirit of God.

Small Group Questions

1. Getting Started:

- What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
- Have you ever had a powerful spiritual experience like Pentecost? What happened? How did it affect you?

2. Into the Bible (Read Ezekiel 37:15-28)

- Why do you think God tells Ezekiel to use a “visual aid” for his prophecy? What does the visual aid symbolize? (v. 15-22)
- Who is the center of this new Israel? Who will the Israelites be reunited around? (v. 22, 24)
- How was this promise fulfilled at Pentecost? (v. 24-27)

- What is the last stage of this promise? What are we still waiting for in Acts 8? (v. 28)

3. Going Deeper

- What does it mean for us to be the Temple of God? How does that shape our identity as Christians?
- If your mission is to reveal the presence of God with you wherever you go, how does that affect the way you behave in everyday situations?
- Why is it so hard to reveal the presence of God in our daily lives? How can we overcome those challenges?

4. Prayer

- Pray for the other members of your group, that God would guide them to share his presence well.