



## Study Guide – Sunday 11 April 2021

### Please read Acts 1.1-8

1. How was the disciples' expectation of the Kingdom of God inadequate, and how does Jesus begin to address this?
2. Why might the disciples be better placed to receive Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God during these 40 days?
3. Have you any examples of where you heard teaching (that you had heard before) which had a particular and fresh impact on you because of your new circumstances?

*The scope of this Kingdom is unlike any other. Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me, **therefore...**" This is the story of humans set free to live under a new King – from every tribe, nation, language and tongue – a kingdom without geographical, racial or social boundaries. This is an entirely different kind of Kingdom to anything we have known or seen before.*

4. How does this challenge our limitations about who we think the Kingdom of God is for?

*Jesus' calling was to defeat the darkest of evil and the enemies of God by coming in weakness and humility and in love. He establishes his Kingdom of light in the midst of the darkness, and then overcomes the darkness from the inside - with love. He establishes the dwelling place of God in the heart of the darkness.*

5. How should this influence how we live our lives as ambassadors of Christ's Kingdom?

*Jesus' principal message when speaking about the Kingdom of God was not about how we go to heaven after we die. It was about how we, under the Kingship of the Lord, enter, enjoy and help establish heaven's rule and blessing on earth as it is in heaven - then forevermore in the new heavens and the new earth yet to come.*

6. How does this give us great purpose in our work in God's Kingdom?

*The story of the Kingdom of God is a story for the world and for the transformation of the world – its people as well as its power structures and systems and not just for church and believers. It stands over and challenges the principalities and powers of this world. It establishes a radically distinct new kingdom with allegiance to King Jesus – in the midst of the kingdoms of this world.*

7. How should this understanding of God's kingdom embolden us to speak truth to power?