



## Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> – Life Group Study Notes

*Opening Prayer: Lord, while we await your glorious return we need your Holy Spirit to empower and guide us to the Kingdom work to which you have called each of us. For when we have been slack in our work we ask for forgiveness. For the work ahead we ask for courage, patience and wisdom.*

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Read Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1: 6-11

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- 1) Read Exodus 24. Moses ascends the mountain, the elders were told to wait until Moses returned (Exod. 24:14). How is this a foreshadowing of Acts 6:1-11?
- 2) Compare Acts 1 vs.3 and vs.6. The disciples had witnessed the life, ministry, teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus and had spent the past forty days with Him and listening to Him. What is uppermost in Jesus mind? (vs.3) What is uppermost in the disciples' minds right now? (vs.6) Why are they different?
- 3) The disciples were challenged to refocus their thinking. How might we, with all of life's challenges, revise our thinking about God's divine program and perfect timing?
- 4) What, then, is the significance for us of the ascension of Christ as High Priest and sacrifice into the presence of God?
- 5) When the power of the Holy Spirit was promised it was for a purpose. What is that purpose in your life? (vss.7,8) Be specific, what ministry have *you* been called to?
- 6) There has been a gap of two thousand years between the beginning of vs.11 and the closing phrase...Jesus is coming back...are we '*standing around staring at the sky*'? Or are we each fully engaged in our Holy Spirit empowered calling?
- 7) There is much Kingdom work yet to do...let us pray for a fresh understanding of our calling as witnesses and kingdom workers and pray that we will be diligent in it.

Read the following passages from Hebrews. Discuss their interpretation of the Ascension of Christ:

Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:23-26; 8:1-2; 9:11; 9:24; 12:18-21.

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Check in with each other. Pray for each other.