



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

Re-Entry | WEEK #2

01.

INTRODUCTION

This week we continue the sermon series called Re-Entry. Today's sermon will focus on Jesus's plan for us through the teaching of his disciples.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Acts 1:1-8

1. Pastor Gordon begins the sermon today talking about the things he is passionate about with "knowing Jesus" being the most important passion in his life. Additionally he states that we often speak boldly about things we believe in deeply.
 - a. What things do you speak boldly about?
 - b. Do you consider yourself passionate about knowing Jesus?
 - c. If so, do you speak boldly about the impact Jesus made in your life?
 - d. If not, why not? What steps can you take to move Jesus to the top of this list?
2. In our reading today, we learn how Jesus, over the period of 40 days, taught his disciples about the resurrection, the kingdom of God and learned about their power source, the Holy Spirit.
 - a. In what ways can the Bible connect you with the resurrected Christ in the same way as his disciples connected with him during the 40 days after resurrection?
 - b. What intentional steps can you take to make reading the bible a daily habit in your life?
3. In **Acts 1:6**, the disciples asked when Jesus would restore the Kingdom of Israel.
 - a. Why did the disciples ask Jesus this question then, after the resurrection? What were the disciples' circumstances at the time?
 - b. What was Jesus trying to tell the disciples in **Acts 1:7**?
 - c. What lessons can we learn from the conversations in these verses?



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4. In **Acts 1:8**, Jesus provides specific direction to the disciples going forward on how they were to witness to him.
 - a. Why is it important to wait for the Holy Spirit to come to us before we act?
 - b. Are you waiting and listening for God's complete instructions or are you running ahead of his plans? Share an example of when you waited patiently for the Holy Spirit to guide you and an example when you did not. How did each turn out?
 - c. Why did Jesus tell the disciples to focus on Jerusalem first, then Judea, then Samaria and then to the ends of the earth?
 - d. How might we use this guidance as we go out to witness for Christ in our world?
5. Pastor Gordon tells a story about a wedding that was interrupted by a serious situation that could have cost the lives of several people. Instead, lives were saved due to the actions of several people in the wedding party.
 - a. Are there examples in your life where you were confronted with a "divine" interruption? In what way did you act?
 - b. It is difficult to move away from the knowing into actions that pull you away from your comfort zone. What comfortable thing(s) do you need to drop right now in order to be able to help others? This could be a neighbor, a coworker or even someone you may not know that God has placed in your path.



NEXT STEPS

1. First Words. Last Words. Open the Bible on your bedside table and read a passage every morning and evening until it either convicts, challenges or comforts you.
2. Look for people to serve.
3. Invest in others.
4. Share your story of God's influence in your life.