

Let's go.

Acts 1:6-11

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Context

- After Jesus' resurrection + Parting words to His disciples.
- Jesus commands His disciples to take the Good News into all the world.
 - 1:8b *in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*
- Jesus reminds His disciples that their "going" is through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Snares for all Christ-followers and all churches

- Self-absorption: Loving the spotlight.
- Pull of Power: Strong desire to “Be in charge” and lead others before leading oneself.
- Fixation on future “When’s” and “What ifs.”
- Playing with fire: Flirting from temptation rather than running from it.
- Compromising Scripture because of pressure from the culture.

Q: What will keep a church on mission?

A: A passion born out of love to keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing.

Steps you can take to reach those in your circle of influence

- Leverage the power of the personal invite
 - Invite, invite, invite with invite cards.
 - Special events: Baby dedication + Friend Day (February 12).
 - Holidays: Easter + Mother’s Day + Father’s Day + Christmas.
 - Attend Starting Point + Foundations with them.
- Leverage the power of hospitality
 - Food...
- Leverage the power of technology
 - Share the Grace website or YouTube channel.
 - Check-in online during services.
 - “Like” + “Follow” + “Subscribe” to Grace online platforms.
- Praying regularly for the names on the Forward stickers.