

Godspeed

“The Adventure Begins”

PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Home Community Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online [HERE](#).
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or write your own questions.

DISCUSSION

Opening Prayer: (1-5 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week’s message, here’s some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.

Have the group thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to speak into our inner desire to go on an adventure with the Advocate. Pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal each individual’s specific adventure and grant the group a burning desire to serve you. Finally, pray that we would have the courage to listen to what you want for us in our lives as we sidestep the boundaries we face to going on adventure here in America.

Check-In: (5 minutes) Out of *Shema (Hear)*, *YHWH (the LORD)*, *Ahava (Love)*, *Lev (Heart)*, *Nephesh (Soul)*, *Me’od (Strength)*, which one was your favorite word study and why?

Discussion: (30 minutes)

What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into the first week of the new series titled *God Speed*. Pastor Danny focuses our attention on Acts 1-2 and asks the question how could life be better without the physical presence of Jesus? Pastor Danny challenges the church to live in the East Bay remembering our desire to go out on adventure with the Holy Spirit.

“Jesus told his disciples, ‘I am not starting the adventure, you are!’” – Pastor Danny Strange

Suggested Questions

- *Read Acts 1:1-9:* Pastor Danny explains that God has created us with an inner desire for an adventure. When he leaves his disciples, Jesus tells them that THEY will be his witness to Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. What are some of the ways that you would like to begin partnering with the Spirit of God and live a life of adventure with God here in the East Bay today?
- *Read Acts 1:10-26:* Next, Pastor Danny points out that the disciples have to wait for a brief time to embark on their adventure. He encourages the church that waiting can be a beautiful period to retune yourself back into prayer, scripture, and community. What are the obstacles that are preventing you from embarking on your described adventure with the Holy Spirit? What strategies can you and the group take in order to help you overcome those obstacles?
- *Read Acts 2:1-36; John 16:5-15:* Pastor Danny shows that when Jesus leaves, he ushers in the era of the Advocate, or the Holy Spirit, at Pentecost. Pastor Danny answers that it is better that Jesus leaves because the Holy Spirit can spread Jesus' presence by dwelling in his disciples. How does the fact that the Holy Spirit dwells inside of you change the way you think about yourself and your purpose on this earth? For the non-believer, in what ways can your life transform because of the Holy Spirit? What action step has the Holy Spirit been stirring up in your soul, similar to Peter's sermon?
- *Read Acts 2:37-41; John 15:1-8:* Finally, Pastor Danny urges us to remember that in order for the adventure to begin, we must first be sure we are "abiding" in Christ so that we may receive the power of the Holy Spirit! What are some of the strategies we can encourage one another to take to abide in the Spirit as we take our first steps on our adventure? How can the group unite to abide in Christ throughout the week / throughout the series?

Closing Prayer: (5-15 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.

Thank Jesus for having the humility to understand that the Holy Spirit would be better than his very presence. Ask that the Holy Spirit would help us abide in Christ and his love for us that he showed on the cross. Thank the Lord for the incredible gift of the Advocate. Finally, as the group goes out this week, ask the Holy Spirit would give us the courage and the faith to take our first steps into a brand new journey with Him.

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

-On the Cusp of Adventure: Throughout the week, write down the adventure that the Holy Spirit is stirring in your soul. Pray this week for guidance as you begin to walk in that direction!

-The Disciples Have to Wait: Throughout the week, wait on the Lord by reading through Acts 1-2 and John 14-16 and memorize Acts 1:8 and John 16:7. Remember that YOU are the one who is meant to carry on the adventure of Jesus!

-Is Life Without Jesus' Physical Presence Really Better?: Throughout the week, brainstorm ways in which the Holy Spirit has transformed the way you live and has been physical present as you have stepped out into faith. Be ready to share examples with your group next week!

-A New Adventure Begins: Throughout the week, BE BOLD in taking your first step! Journal each new step by documenting your reactions, fears, excitement, etc. Share this with a trusted member of your group as you pray for one another this week!