



## Pacific Community Church Growth Group Sermon Questions

**Date:** May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Sermon Series:** N/A

**Sermon Title:** “To The Hard and Dark Places”

**Primary Text(s):** Acts 1:1-9

1. Read Acts 1:1-9
2. If you could instantly travel anywhere in the world for one week, where would you go and why?

*Leader's Notes: Keep it light and fun—this will connect to the global mission theme.*

*Follow Up Questions: What draws you to that place? Is it culture, food, scenery, people, adventure?*

3. What's the farthest you've ever traveled from home, and what was one thing you learned about that place?

*Leader's Notes: This introduces the idea of crossing cultural contexts, new experiences, and seeing the world differently.*

*Follow Up Questions: Did anything surprise you? Did it change how you saw your own culture?*

4. Jesus spent 40 days speaking about the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). Why do you think the Kingdom was central to Jesus' final teaching before His ascension?

*Leader's Notes: Help people think beyond “going to heaven” toward the Kingdom as God's reign breaking into the world through Jesus.*

*Follow Up Questions: When you hear Kingdom of God, what comes to mind? How is the Kingdom bigger than personal salvation? How might this shape our understanding of mission?*

5. In verse 4, Jesus tells the disciples to wait for the promised Holy Spirit. Why do you think Jesus told them to wait instead of immediately going out to do ministry?

*Leader's Notes: This gets at dependence on the Spirit rather than doing ministry out of your own strength.*

*Follow Up Questions: Why is waiting difficult? What does dependence on the Spirit look like today? Have you ever tried doing ministry in your own strength?*

- 6. Jesus says, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you” (Acts 1:8). What kind of power is Jesus talking about?**

*Leader’s Notes: Not worldly power, but power for witness, courage, endurance, and holiness.*

*Follow Up Questions: Have you received the Holy Spirit? What was that experience like for you? How do we know if we’re filled with the Holy Spirit?*

- 7. Acts 1:8 connects receiving the Spirit with being Jesus’ witnesses. What does being a witness look like in ordinary life?**

*Leader’s Notes: A witness speaks and lives in a way that points people to Jesus.*

*Follow Up Questions: Where has God placed you to be a witness right now?*

- 8. Jesus lays out a mission from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). What does this teach us about God’s heart for the nations?**

*Leader’s Notes: Help people to see God’s mission as both local and global.*

*Follow Up Questions: What would we miss out on if we only focused on local or global missions? Has anyone gone on an international mission trip? What was the experience like?*

- 9. The Alliance often talks about being “Spirit-empowered, mission-focused people, multiplying disciples everywhere.” How might God be inviting you to participate in this vision?**

*Leader’s Notes: The sermon emphasized that some go, some send, and all participate. Participating can look like prayer, financial gifts, welcoming, and going.*

- 10. In the sermon, we were asked, “Will you go?” What feelings or thoughts came up for you when you heard that question?**

*Leader’s Notes: Make it personal. If anyone senses a call to be a missionary, encourage them to talk to a pastor and have the group pray over them.*

*Follow Up Questions: What fears or obstacles might keep someone from saying yes to God’s calling? Where do you sense God asking you to respond?*