DISCUSSION Week 5 the hills.org



The last half of the book of Acts reveals the amazing story of how the Jesus' community became a global movement, and it reveals keys to how it has remained so. There is so much to apply as we explore how we can "proclaim the kingdom of God with all boldness and without hindrance."

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

- 1 Read Acts 19:1-5; Acts 1:8. We must "KNOW POWER!" Rick says, "Living without power hinders our witness." Paul immediately sensed that the followers of Jesus at Ephesus were living without power. They had not received the Holy Spirit at baptism because they had not been baptized in the name of Jesus. But, when we surrender to Jesus and receive the Holy Spirit at baptism, we have the Lord's unhindered power to witness. Nothing can stop us! Worldly powers can no longer hinder our witness. Share an example in your life where you received a divine empowering.
- 2 KNOW THAT HIS POWER IS OVER ALL DISEASE. Read Acts 19:11-12; Acts 5:15-16; Acts 10:38. Rick stated that almost 40% of the narrative in the four gospels are devoted to the healing ministry of Jesus. As Luke 5:17 says, "The power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick." This authority for supernatural healing is still present today! Experience tells us that it is not always His will to heal, but it is His will that we always ask for healing! Just by asking, we are witnessing to our belief in His power! Name an area of your life where you would like to experience more of the power of God.
- **3 KNOW THAT HIS POWER IS OVER THE DEMONIC. Read Acts 19:13-20.** There is a difference in using the name of Jesus, and surrendering to Jesus. The latter is an expression of faith in the name of Jesus. A powerful witness follows, as Rick said,

- "They were publicly repudiating "the powers that be" and confessing the power that "was and is and is to come." They did not sell their magic books, they destroyed them. **Read Acts 26:17-18.** Name a few things you would consider as demonic today. How does the power of God manifest itself in you to help you overcome the schemes of the Devil?
- 4 KNOW THAT HIS POWER IS EVEN OVER
  DEATH. Read Acts 20:7-12. We still continue to
  meet "on the first day of the week." Of course, Sunday
  is the day Jesus arose from the dead, proclaiming His
  power even over death. Read Hebrews 2:14. Death
  has no authority over those who are under Jesus.
  Paul raised young Eutychus. It is the same power
  given to us today. Read Ephesians 1:19-20. Speak
  about some ways that Jesus is empowering you to
  witness about your victory over death.
- 5 HOW WE KNOW HIS POWER? CHRIST HAS
  OVERCOME THE POWER OF SIN! Sin was a master
  that no one had the power to defeat. So, heaven sent
  a champion that could. In reality, there is nothing in
  this world to hinder you! You have God's power to
  overcome! Pray together that nothing will hinder
  your witness about what God has done and is doing
  in your life.

