

The Ascension

July 3, 2016

Acts 1:1-14

As Believers:

1) We live “God with us.”

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” **Matthew 1:23**

As Believers, God is with us at all places and at all times.

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. **Psalm 139:7-8**

This means that at any time and at any place we can call on the name of our Lord!

It also means that God hears and knows our thoughts and words when others are not around! God hears all of our conversations, knows all of our “secrets”, our gossip, backbiting, anger, hate and rage.

2) Do we desire “God with us,” that is to be in tune with the Holy Spirit?

As a Believer, how much do I want it (to be in tune with the Holy Spirit)? I have access, but am I enjoying Him, knowing Him and walking with Him?

Am I putting myself in the position to walk in it?

Having God with us is one thing, enjoying Him is another.

“The ministry of the Holy Spirit is not a luxury; it is an absolute necessity.”

~ Warren Wiersbe

Don’t know about you, but I get off track, side tracked and derailed often, I need the Holy Spirit to guide me back in line!

3) With “God with us” anything is possible.

Ultimately, it’s about God’s Will being done, but God often uses me and you to accomplish that.

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. **Acts 2:41**

God changed the world through 12 Disciples, all through His power. What might God want to do through you and me?

4) Because “God is with us,” we must get to work!

The phrase, “with one accord”, is used six times in the Book of Acts.

We can’t do this alone, that is to share the Truth with the world, but it starts with us.

Witness is a key word in the Book of Acts and is used twenty-nine times as either a verb or a noun. A witness is somebody who tells what he has seen and heard (Acts 4: 19– 20). When you are on the witness stand in court, the judge is not interested in your ideas or opinions; he only wants to hear what you know. Our English word martyr comes from the Greek word translated “witness,”... while some of God's people have a calling to evangelism (Eph. 4: 11), all of God's people are expected to be witnesses and tell the lost about the Savior. Not every Christian can bring a sinner to the place of faith and decision (though most of us could do better), but every Christian can bear faithful witness to the Savior. 'A true witness delivereth souls' (Prov. 14: 25). ~ **Warren Wiersbe**

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. **2 Corinthians 5:20**

We must major on the majors and minor on the minors.

Dream with me for a minute...

What if we began to be in tune with the Spirit all throughout our day?

What if we were not satisfied with the status quo?

What if we really wanted to walk and know God?

What if we begin to live life fully for God?

What if we begin to share our faith with our family and friends?

What if....

Prayer Focus:

I would realize God is with me 24/7.

I would desire to be more in tune with the Spirit of God.

I would get to work with other believers.

I would dream and pray about what God may want to do in and through me, my family and my Church.