



ACTS OF THE  
*Holy Spirit*

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR CONNECT GROUPS

1 JAN 2023

“WAIT, WATCH, PRAY”

ACTS 1.1-11

### Suggestions for Making the Most of your Group Time

1. Begin by reviewing the video of the sermon, preferably before you meet together (see <https://www.brmc.org.sg/services/sermons/>).
2. Read the Scripture passage together, before entering into discussion.
3. Spend time on both question components, namely:
  - a. Comprehension (*Who? What? When? Why? How?*);
  - b. Application / Transformation (*So what? What action should I take? Perspective should I adopt? Value should I uphold? Emotion should I embrace? Habit should I develop? Desire should I nurture? etc*)
4. Discuss as few or as many questions as best fits your group's current context and present stage in life.
5. Before ending your group session, allocate some time (15-20 min) to pray with and for one another.

## Discussion Questions

1. From your review of the sermon and your reading of the Scripture passage, recap the key points of this sermon.

2. The first apostles were to be *witnesses* of Jesus (v.8). This means that they had first seen something, or more precisely, Someone. It is only because they had first encountered and experienced the living Jesus that they could share about him to others in Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria, and in every corner of the earth. What about us?

a) To be a witness of Jesus is to have first seen or encountered him. How have you witnessed Jesus present among you, whether individually or in your CG? Think back to the past year: did you witness his presence through someone's sacrificial love and care? Through his word? Through answered prayer? Through a moment of discipline? Or through some other avenue?

b) In what ways will you be more observant to look out for, to perceive, to witness God's living presence in your life, in this new year?

c) How readily do you bear witness (i.e. share with others, whether Christians or non-Christians) about the moments when you've witnessed (i.e. observed) God in your life? Would you bear witness any differently in this new year?

3. It was mentioned in this week's sermon that when we at Barker Road hosted the TRAC Session in November 2022, the conference delegates witnessed the warm, Spirit-filled hospitality of our staff and volunteers. The sermon also spurred us to reflect: is this openness and welcome something that BRMC is well-known for? (As opposed to being a church that is well-to-do or influential.)

a) On a scale of 1 to 10, how warm, welcoming, and hospitable is your CG? Each person should share why you gave this score.

b) Share one **practical and achievable** suggestion or recommendation to help your CG add one point to the score. (Just one point will do - we'll start with small steps!) Keep in mind that your idea should be as realistic and do-able as possible.

4. That's it. There are fewer discussion questions this week, in keeping with the sermon topic "Wait, Watch, Pray". In that spirit, take time to pray with one another, that God would transform you and empower you to live out all that you've discussed and shared.

You may also like to reflect: does your CG make time during each session to pray with one another? Or is all your time spent on discussion and sharing only?