

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Passing the Baton? – Acts 1:1-11

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – illustration of relay races
2. Jesus Prepares
3. Jesus Promises
4. Jesus Empowers
5. Jesus Provides
6. Conclusion – understanding what Jesus does grows our love for Him and motivates us to be used by Him

Scripture Passages Referenced

- Luke 1:3 - it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus...
- Colossians 4:14 - Luke, the beloved physician, greets you.
- 1 Corinthians 15:14 - And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
- Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.
- Acts 28:30-31 - He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.
- Isaiah 32:15 – describes a future time when the Spirit is poured out from on high
- 1 John 4:4 - Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
- John 16:7 - Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.
- Romans 8:34 – Jesus is at the right hand of God interceding for us

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever read through the book of Acts? What do you know about it?
- Why is it better to think of Acts as the Acts of Jesus rather than the Acts of the Apostles?
- How do we see the three persons of the Trinity at work in this passage?
- What comfort can you find from the way Jesus prepared His apostles for His return to heaven?
- Why was the promise of the Holy Spirit such a big deal?
- How would your life look different if you truly believed Jesus' words that it was better that He left so the Holy Spirit would come?
- Why is it important for us not to speculate about the second coming of Christ?
- How does Jesus empower us to be His witnesses wherever we are?
- In what ways can you grow as a witness for Jesus?
- How does Jesus provide for us as the risen and conquering Son of God?
- What can you do, practically speaking, to grow in your understanding of Christ's intercession for you?
- How does this passage and sermon grow your love for Jesus?
- How are you motivated to serve God more faithfully in all that you do?