



ACTS 1:1-8

"TRUSTING THROUGH TRANSITIONS" MAY 11, 2025

SUMMARY

It's not news that our church is in transition. Pastor Jeff reminded us that although it is challenging, it is also normal. In fact, change is normal; consistency is the exception. He also emphasized that transition is different from change, quoting transition expert William Bridges, who said: "Change is not the same as transition. Change is situational; transition is psychological." That's important to note because it is never the change itself that affects us the most; it is always the transition. That's why we must see every transition as an invitation to trust God.

Fortunately, God has not left us rudderless. To help us during this season of transition and as we re-enter our Acts series, Pastor Jeff took us back to Acts 1, where the disciples were experiencing significant change and struggling with transition.

Jesus has died, but now He lives—yet He is leaving again. No one, apart from Jesus, knows what is happening, what they should be doing, or what comes next. But Pastor Jeff highlighted that although they are confused, Jesus is not; and he wants them to:

- 1. Do what they already know
- 2. Wait for direction
- 3. Evaluate personal biases
- 4. Fill the gaps with trust

This are the same invitations God makes to us during our transitions. It doesn't mean we walk blindly or unquestioningly into the future, but rather, we are called to faithfully walk together into the future. Let's unpack this text and encourage each other to trust God as we try to walk faithfully through transition.



DISCUSSION

Expand Our Awareness



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: Please feel empowered to use only the questions that are helpful for the context of your group.

Transitions can be difficult and emotional experiences, but they are also very normal and common.

• If that's the case, why do we often find ourselves struggling with them?

We typically respond to transitions with three common questions:

- 1. What is going on?
- 2. What do I do?
- 3. What's next?
 - Which of these questions do you find yourself most consumed with, and why?
 - Think about a transition you're going through. What would make it easier for you? Why?

Extract the Truth Read the text: Acts 1:1-8

• What jumps out to you?

Do what you know

Jesus is not leaving his disciples unprepared; he spent three years preparing them for this moment.

- What does he expect them to do?
- What has he already taught and commanded?
- How does this apply to you?
- What do you want to invest yourself in during transition?



Wait

Jesus doesn't expect them to "do nothing", but he does expect them to wait for the Holy Spirit.

- Why do you think it is so important for them to wait for the Spirit to provide power and direction?
- What happens when we fail to wait for God's wisdom and direction?
- What helps you wait?

Be aware of your bias

Even after the resurrection, the disciples were still confused about what type of Messiah Jesus is. They struggled to let go of their perspectives in order to align with God's better plan.

- Why do you think that was?
- How do your past and your personality affect how you process change, especially church change?

Fill the gaps with trust

Based on the text, Jesus leaves them with a significant gap of unknown. We can assume he expects them to trust him and obey.

- Why do you think Jesus gave them such a large gap of uncertainty?
- What was God trying to accomplish in them as they learned to trust?
- When have you had to trust God in an unknown situation?
- How did you grow as a result?
- How can God's past faithfulness help you fill the gap right now between what you'd like to know and what you do know?

Experience Transformation

- Which of these is easiest for you? Why?
- Which is the hardest? Why?
- What is God prompting you to do as a result of this text?



- What support do you need from your church or small group to navigate this transition faithfully?
- How can you support and encourage others in a season of church transition?

Pray

Ask the Lord to help you grow in faith, hope, and service as you wait to see what he will do and how he will lead.

