

ACTS: What Are You Waiting For?

Small Group Discussion Outline

Text: Acts 1:1–11

Purpose: To explore how God uses waiting to shape desire, expectancy, and mission through the Holy Spirit.

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

- Brief welcome. Ask God to speak through Scripture and one another.
- Invite openness and honesty.

2. Icebreaker: Waiting Stories (10 minutes)

Question: What is the most difficult thing you have ever waited for?

Optional Follow-Up:

- Why was that wait so hard? What emotions came up during the waiting?

3. Setting the Scene (5 minutes)

Leader Summary (brief):

- Acts is a continuation of Luke's Gospel.
- Acts 1 takes place after Jesus' resurrection but before the Holy Spirit is poured out.
- The disciples are living in the **in-between**—between promise and fulfillment.

4. Scripture Reading (5 minutes) Read **Acts 1:1–11** aloud (consider multiple readers).

5. Observing the Text (10 minutes)

Questions:

1. What stands out to you from this passage?
2. What does Jesus command the disciples to do?
3. What promise are they told to wait for?

6. Understanding Waiting (15 minutes)

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think waiting is so difficult for most people?
2. How does waiting often make us feel “stuck” or powerless?
3. In verse 4, Jesus commands the disciples to wait.

Key Insight for Group:

Waiting in Scripture is not passive—it is intentional and purposeful.

7. Desire & Expectancy (15 minutes)

Discussion Questions: What tends to happen to your desire for God when you are waiting—does it grow or shrink?

1. When was the last time you were truly expectant for God to do something?
2. What do you think it means to “actively wait” on God?

Reflection Prompt:

- In the waiting, am I wanting relief from my situation—or deeper relationship with God?

8. Purpose in the Waiting (10 minutes) Read Acts 1:8 again.**Discussion Questions:**

1. According to Jesus, what is the purpose of the waiting?
2. How does the Holy Spirit empower believers beyond personal comfort?
3. What might God be preparing you for during your current season of waiting?

Prompt:

- Where in your life are you currently waiting on God?
- What fear, hope, or desire is connected to that waiting?

10. Prayer & Ministry (10–15 minutes) Group Prayer Focus:

- Invite the Holy Spirit to meet people in their waiting.
- Pray for:
 - Those waiting for healing
 - Those waiting for restoration (family, relationships)
 - Fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit

Pray Together:

*Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of Your people.
Stir us in the fire of Your love.
Bring Your Spirit,
and let Your Kingdom come.*