

# The Mission

## Week 3: The Spirit's Power

### CONNECT

- Do you tend to work better as part of a team or alone? Give an example.
- What's a skill you learned from a parent?
- God has given disciples a mission. Does that make you excited or nervous? Why do you think that is?

### INTRODUCTION

The past two weeks we've focused primarily on God-centric aspects of the mission—his motivation of love for the world, and the cross of Christ as his the centerpiece of the mission. The mission, however, is handed to disciples from Jesus. In John 20:21, Jesus says, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." He then breathes on them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:22) This means that the way Jesus was sent by the Father is now the blueprint for the way Jesus sends us. But... it's a blueprint we can only use in the power of the Spirit. Use the wrong blueprint and we might find ourselves working against God's mission. Ignore the Spirit and we won't have power to carry it out.

### OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

**Read:** Luke 3:21-22

**Discuss:** Before Jesus begins his ministry, the Father declares that he is pleased with him. This means that our missional endeavors aren't carried out to earn God's approval. Rather, we go on mission with the security and confidence that God is pleased with us. How can the mission be negatively impacted if we forget this?

**Read:** Luke 4:40-43

**Discuss:** In what ways do you think Jesus going to preach in other towns was more mission-critical than him staying in Capernaum?

**Read:** Luke 5:3-10

**Discuss:** Jesus certainly didn't need the help of disciples to heal, cast out demons, and the like. Why call the disciples, then?

**Read:** Luke 4:14-15

**Discuss:** Based on what you know from the Bible, what does it mean to go on mission "in the power of the Spirit"?

### APPLICATION

- If we're using the blueprint for mission we see in the passages above, it should make us secure (because God is pleased with us), focused (because the objective of the mission hasn't changed), relational (because Jesus didn't go on mission alone), and bold (because the Spirit's power is sufficient). Secure, focused, relational, bold—what would you give yourself in each of these categories, a green, yellow, or red light and why?
- When it comes to the mission, what kind of help do you really need right now from the Spirit?
- How does being a recipient of Jesus's mission help and encourage you?

### PRAYER

- Praise God for your salvation!
- Ask for the Spirit's help in needed areas.
- Pray that the gospel would spread and the mission advance.