

CHALLENGES principle from Jerusalem . . .

5. Many Christians need _____ to _____ and _____ the Acts 1:8 Challenge of Jesus.

“They were stoning Stephen as he called out: ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!’ Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lord do not charge them with this sin!’ And saying this, he fell asleep. Saul agreed with putting him to death. On that day a severe persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the land of Judea and Samaria” (Acts 7:59-8:1, HCSB).

Ask yourself . . .

- What can I do to help take the gospel to my Jerusalem?
- Where in our Jerusalem might God lead our church?

The World Next Door

. . . Our Church’s Jerusalem

Part 5 of 6 in the series “The Acts 1:8 Challenge”

• **Jesus’ last words on earth are His first priority for His followers today.**

“It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:7-8, HCSB).

The Four “Mission Fields” of Jesus’ Acts 1:8 Challenge:

1. The Ends of the Earth
2. Samaria
3. Judea
4. **Jerusalem**

• **The presence and power of the Holy Spirit are essential to Christian living and the church’s mission.**

Five “Big Ideas” about God’s Mission through the church:

1. Calling
2. Cultures
3. Church Planting
4. Cooperation
5. Challenges

Our Church’s Mission in Jerusalem

“When they observed the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed and knew that they had been with Jesus. And since they saw the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in response. After they had ordered them to leave the Sanhedrin, they conferred among

themselves, saying, ‘What should we do with these men? For an obvious sign, evident to all who live in Jerusalem, has been done through them, and we cannot deny it’” (Acts 4:13-16, HCSB)!

The Jerusalem mission field is the _____ where we live, work, shop, play, and go to school. And it requires just as much _____ for today’s witnesses and churches as the mission fields of Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth.

CALLING principle from Jerusalem . . .

1. God calls Christians _____ their local communities, even to people who need a _____ or _____ church.

“There were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. When this sound occurred, the multitude came together and was confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were astounded and amazed, saying, ‘Look, aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? How is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?’ . . . And every day they devoted themselves [to meeting] together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved” (Acts 2:5-8, 46-47, HCSB).

CULTURES principle from Jerusalem . . .

2. A church’s Jerusalem mission field is also a _____ and _____ for other mission fields.

“Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some from what is called the Freedmen’s Synagogue, composed of both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, came forward and disputed with Stephen. But they were unable to

stand up against the wisdom and the Spirit by whom he spoke” (Acts 6:8-10, HCSB).

CHURCH PLANTING principle from Jerusalem . . .

3. Growing disciples make _____ for the sake of new _____ and new _____.

“So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 people were added to them. And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers. Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. Now all the believers were together and had everything in common. So they sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need” (Acts 2:41-45, HCSB).

COOPERATION principle from Jerusalem . . .

4. Participating in the mission of God is a _____, _____ commitment.

“Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of his possessions was his own, but instead they held everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was on all of them. For there was not a needy person among them, because all those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles’ feet. This was then distributed to each person as anyone had a need. Joseph, a Levite and a Cypriot by birth, whom the apostles named Barnabas, which is translated Son of Encouragement, sold a field he owned, brought the money, and laid it at the apostles’ feet” (Acts 4:32-37, HCSB).