

## **Study #6 For Such a Time as This: You Will Be my Witnesses**

### **PREPARE**

Quiet your thoughts and welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in your midst.

Begin with prayer. What do you most want to receive from the Lord this day? Perhaps it's the warmth of His loving presence; or you are waiting to hear specific guidance or direction. Take a few moments to release the anxieties and worries you have and receive His good, pleasing, and perfect plan for you today. This time of prayer will be different for everyone.

### **Read Psalm 1:1-3 (The Passion Translation)**

*What delight comes to the one who follows God's ways  
He won't walk in step with the wicked,  
nor share the sinner's way,  
nor be found sitting in the scorner's seat.*

*<sup>2</sup> His pleasure and passion is remaining true to the Word of "I Am,"  
meditating day and night in the true revelation of light*

*<sup>3</sup> He will be standing firm like a flourishing tree  
planted by God's design  
deeply rooted by the brooks of bliss,  
bearing fruit in every season of his life.  
He is never dry, never fainting,  
ever blessed, ever prosperous.*

### **REFLECT**

In your core group, briefly discuss one of these three questions. Break into triads if necessary.

1. How have you experienced fruitfulness or flourishing in these past few weeks?
2. What burdens, worries, or anxieties have you been carrying and would appreciate prayer for?
3. What's a verse or passage of scripture that has been meaningful to you recently and why?

## Study

### Read Acts 8:26-40

*This is a dramatic story of a Gentile discovering faith in Jesus. Consider the questions below to explore how that came to pass.*

1. List all the things that God does in this passage.
2. List all the things that Philip does.
3. How do these two lists help us understand the role that God plays and the role that we play in the process of witnessing to others and sharing our faith?

### Read Acts 8:4-8

1. What was the situation that Philip was experiencing prior to the angel of the Lord telling him to leave Samaria? If you were in Philip's shoes what objections might you have had to leaving?
2. What do you admire about Philip? How does his example challenge or inspire you?

## Response

*"A major reason many people do not see others around them come to faith is that they are not regularly asking God for directions." Beau Crosetto in Beyond Awkward*

1. What is your reaction to the quote above?
2. Have you ever had an experience of sensing guidance from the Holy Spirit that led you to do something out of the ordinary?
3. How can you begin to regularly ask the Holy Spirit to make you more sensitive to Him?
4. How do you feel about God interrupting your routine? Why?