

A WEEK-LONG DEVOTIONAL  
FOR JOINING GOD ON MISSION

*You Will  
Be My  
Witnesses*

RESONATEGLOBALMISSION.ORG



A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

**Resonate**  
GLOBAL MISSION

# *Introduction*

At Resonate Global Mission, we hear testimony after testimony of how Jesus changes lives. Jesus heals people from addictions, reconciles relationships that are broken, restores hope to people in despair, and gives purpose to people who feel like they have no worth. Jesus is certainly good news—and we have the honor of being his witnesses in the world.

But what does it mean to be Christ's witnesses? What does that look like in your life?

This week, we invite you to join us as we dive into Acts 1:8 and explore what it means to be Christ's witnesses in our homes, our neighborhoods, and in countries throughout the world. It may be a little scary or uncomfortable—but we don't go alone. The good news of Jesus is also that God is always with us.

Take a moment to ask the Holy Spirit to teach you something new this week, show you a new opportunity to share Christ's love, or invite you to step into God's mission in a new way. We're excited to see how God works in and through you for his kingdom.

Thank you for joining God on mission.

# Day 1

**ACTS 1:8**

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

Often a single phrase defines our perspective on an issue. For example, the phrase “I have a dream” defines the movement for racial equality. The phrase “It is better to give than to receive” defines gift-giving (especially around Christmas).

For global mission, Acts 1:8 is a defining phrase: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Jesus shared these final words with his disciples before ascending to his Father. A few days later, these words were fulfilled at the festival of Pentecost. To celebrate Pentecost, Jews from nearly every nation, culture, and language had gathered in Jerusalem. And when the Holy Spirit alighted on the disciples that day, they began to share the gospel in all the languages of the people who had gathered. A timid group of followers became a courageous team of evangelists *sent out* by the risen Lord to the entire world.



First, Christ sent the disciples to their own "backyard." They boldly proclaimed the good news of Jesus to their fellow Jews in Jerusalem, even in the temple courts. Christ also sent his disciples into Judea, where their fellow Jews spoke the same language and worked in the same kinds of places. Christ also shattered social limits by sending his disciples to the Samaritans, an ethnic and religious minority that Jewish people traditionally marginalized. And, finally, Christ sent his disciples to the ends of the earth, to places with unfamiliar languages and customs.

Acts 1:8 still defines the church's mission today—and it doesn't mean simply that we are called to share the gospel "everywhere." Christ still sends his church today to specific places and peoples. He sends us to be witnesses of God's love in our own backyards and within our own families (our "Jerusalem"). He sends us to be his witnesses to people in our neighborhoods and communities who share our language and customs (our Judea). He sends us to be witnesses of the gospel to people who, though they live near us, are very different from us in culture, religion, and ethnicity (our "Samaria"). And, finally, Christ sends many of us across borders, to foreign lands and peoples, to places where the gospel is unknown or unfamiliar.

As an extension of your church, Resonate Global Mission empowers CRC congregations to respond to join God's mission as defined in Acts 1:8. Scott Geurink, a Resonate local mission leader, is a powerful example of how this works. Scott works with both Resonate and Classis Zeeland (a group of CRC congregations in West Michigan) to support Latino pastors who are planting new congregations to reach West Michigan's large Spanish-speaking population. Scott also leads regular Bible studies with migrant workers at the invitation of several West Michigan orchard owners. All of this is possible because of Scott's many years of experience as a Resonate missionary in Mexico. Resonate is pleased to have Scott and many other local and regional leaders like him who are walking with CRC churches and leaders as they live out Acts 1:8.

This week, we're going to explore what it means for you to live out Acts 1:8 and join God in mission. As you read these devotions, ask God what "boundary" he is calling you to cross as you live and share the gospel. Is there a person in your family or in your neighborhood who needs the presence of Christ through you? Is there someone of another culture or ethnic background whom God could be moving you to befriend? Could God be calling you to be a herald of the gospel in an unfamiliar place within your country or beyond it?



**PRAYER:** Jesus Christ, Lord of mission, give me your Holy Spirit and your courage to be a witness of your love in my family, in my neighborhood, in my community, and around the world. Amen.

*Zachary King is the director of Resonate Global Mission in the United States. Before becoming Resonate's director, he served as a missionary in Haiti.*

## Day 2

### WITNESSING BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

“I think I can, I think I can. . . .”

You might remember from your childhood—or have read to your children—the story of *The Little Engine That Could*. It is widely used to inspire hard work and disciplined perseverance. The emphasis is on personal achievement of an objective. The final words of Jesus to his disciples as he handed over his mission to them communicate a very different message: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses. . . .”

Jesus' followers were called not to fulfill a personal goal but, rather, to surrender their very lives in pursuit of God's purposes in God's world. “Witness” is an English translation of the original Greek word that also means “martyr,” one who attests to something with his or her life. And for those first believers, confessing Jesus as Lord meant risking persecution and possible death.

Jesus' followers were called to carry out God's mission not by sheer personal resolve but, rather, by the power of the Holy Spirit

acting in them, in spite of them, and through them. Finally, the testimony they were to bear was not an individual endeavor but one to be carried out as a community. (The “you” in Jesus’ words refers to all of them; it is plural.)

What then does this mean for us as Jesus’ followers, especially in the midst of the pain and uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic? What might it look like for us to be witnesses of God’s love in the world today?

Like those first disciples, we are sent into our families, our neighborhoods, and our cities to live out not our personal agendas but God’s reconciling, peacemaking, life-giving purposes—even if doing so brings us judgment or risk. We are sent not in our own strength but in that of God’s Spirit. And we are not sent alone but as communities of believers. Rather than gritting our teeth and panting, “I think I can,” we join with the apostle Paul and other Christians throughout the ages acknowledging that we “can do all this through him who gives [us] strength” (Philippians 4:13).

For those of us who share life at Casa Adobe, an intentional Christian community in Costa Rica and a Resonate Global Mission ministry partner, seeking to be faithful witnesses of God’s kingdom and God’s justice is not a spiritual or religious matter separated from the way we lead our daily lives. For example, since we recognize that we cannot serve both God and money, we strive against societal pressures to purchase and accumulate more and more stuff, and instead we share what we have with one another and with others. This frees up time, energy, and resources to focus on accompanying our neighbors and welcoming refugees. Aware that we cannot overcome our natural tendency toward selfish individualism on our own, we daily share morning prayer, a time to consciously acknowledge that our very lives depend on the breath of God’s Spirit.



Most Christians do not live in communities like Casa Adobe. But all Christians are called to express God's good purposes in God's world in all we think, say, and do. Are we willing to surrender our personal preferences and ambitions so that God's Spirit may redirect them toward serving others as Jesus did? Are we seeking strength from God to live according to God's will in all areas of life? Are we seeking God's strength in the way we manage our money; the way we treat our spouse and children or manage our singleness; the way we relate to people who are different from us; the way we advocate for social and ecological policies? Are we intentionally building loving, forgiving, and welcoming communities that demonstrate God's love? In a world bent on accumulation, exclusion, and violence, Christian witness speaks through the daily living of a loving community—far louder than any evangelistic rally or worship service.



**PRAYER:** Creator God, may we be open to recognize the presence and direction of your Holy Spirit so that we may follow Jesus as whole-life witnesses of your love in your world. Amen.

*Ruth Padilla DeBorst serves with Resonate in Missional Leadership Development. She lives in Costa Rica with her husband, James, as a member of the intentional Christian community Casa Adobe.*



## Day 3

### JERUSALEM

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

Jesus tells his disciples that when the Holy Spirit comes upon them, they will become witnesses to the gospel. And the place they will start is Jerusalem. I wonder what it felt like when they heard Jesus say this? Were they surprised? A little nervous?

For those disciples, even though Jerusalem may not have been the place where they grew up, it was home. It was at the center of their world. It was the place where they gathered with their own people to worship, celebrate feasts, and be reminded that God was still the Lord and King over all the earth, despite the occupation of the Roman Empire.

So when Jesus tells them that the Holy Spirit will fill them and send them as witnesses into Jerusalem, I think they would have been a little unnerved. They would have understood that Jesus was sending them to the people they were closest to. In other words: their mission began at home. They were to live out their Christian faith right where they were. Among their own people.



The city of Jerusalem is still a special place for Christians. However, Christians understand that what Jesus is saying here is that for all his followers their mission starts at home—in *their* Jerusalem. It begins with the neighbors in our lives and in the community around us, with the people we go to school with, work with, worship and play with.

A deeply moving scene takes place in the last week of Jesus' life. The gospel of Luke tells us that as Jesus approaches Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the city where he will soon be arrested and sent to his death, he looks over Jerusalem and weeps (Luke 19:41). His heart is broken for his community, his own people.

About fifteen years ago, the church I was serving realized that we had minimal connection to the neighbors where our church building was located. Most of the congregation lived outside of the neighborhood and commuted to church for Sunday worship and midweek programs. One year, our church participated in a Bible study together that challenged each of us to put our faith into action right where we were. Even more importantly, the study stretched us to put into practice what we were learning.

That time of learning and practicing together led to significant change in the life of our church family. The Holy Spirit convicted us about what it meant to love our actual neighbors, including the ones who lived around the church building. We were not just to bear witness to the people who came through our church doors or signed up for our programs. It dawned on us in a powerful way that we were to actually go and be with our neighbors, build relationships, and serve—all in the name of Jesus. Our hearts began to soften toward people we had not paid attention to for many years. Jesus began to break our hearts for our neighbors in a new way.

That conviction put us on a beautiful journey. We started by listening. We met with community and business leaders, did demographic studies, talked with neighbors, and, most importantly, began

praying. Change came slowly, but change happened. Today the church is still building meaningful relationships with neighbors. They are involved in local food ministries for immigrants, a community barbecue, and much more.

To join God on mission, we need to first examine ourselves, our churches, our schools, and our other ministries. We need to make sure we understand who we are and where God is calling us to be his witnesses.

So this is my question for you: Where is your Jerusalem? Who in your circle of friends, colleagues, classmates, or neighbors could you begin to pray for today? For whom do you weep with love?



**PRAYER:** Oh God, may our hearts be broken by what breaks yours. Thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit. Thank you for placing me where I am so that I can bear witness to your love right here and right now, in my Jerusalem. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Kevin DeRaaf is a pastor in the Christian Reformed Church in North America and serves as the director of Resonate Global Mission — Canada.*

## Day 4

### JUDEA

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

As a general rule, I never pay more than \$15 for sunglasses because I lose them so often! Sometimes I find the previous-season's sunglasses under the seat of my car or in the pocket of my raincoat. But sometimes I lose my sunglasses only to realize they are on top of my head. What I had been looking for was with me the whole time.

When Jesus sends his disciples out to “Judea” as part of the Great Commission, he is encouraging them to take note of the mission field that is most often overlooked: the mission field that has been nearby the whole time. Jesus sends them into their own neighborhoods—into places where neighbors share in similar lifestyles, have similar experiences, and speak their language.

In Mark 5:18-20, Jesus had just healed a man of demons that had plagued him for a long time. The man had been living in a cemetery among the tombs and graves, experiencing such inner turmoil that he spent his days and nights screaming and cutting himself. But then one encounter with Jesus changed everything. Jesus cast out his



demons, and the man experienced the peace, grace, and cleansing of God. This man's entire life was transformed by Jesus.

Given such a miraculous transformation, the man naturally wanted to join Jesus and his disciples on the next part of their journey. But Jesus had another plan for him. He tells him, "Go home to your own people. Tell them your own story—what the Master did and how he had mercy on you (MSG)." Jesus sent him back to his own area, to the people who could see with their very eyes the transformation that had taken place in his life. He became the talk of the town. His mission field was with him the whole time.

Being sent by Jesus starts with our own story of transformation. Through God's grace and love, God removes the burden of shame from us and restores us to a life of joy and peace. God sees our loneliness from rejection and reminds us of God's unconditional love for us. God takes our heart of stone and replaces it with a heart of flesh.

It is out of this story of transformation that we desire to follow Jesus, and the mission area God is calling us into has been nearby the whole time.

Resonate Global Mission helps people see the mission field right in their own neighborhood and local area through a coaching process called Go Local that shapes the people of God through intentional missional practices. One participant in the Go Local process lives in a condo community, where people of diverse ages live but rarely interact with one another. Recognizing God's call to be sent into her own neighborhood, she ventured out of her front door a full ten feet into her yard, where she set up a lawn chair and sat down to wait and see what God would do. Eventually her next door neighbor became curious about why she was sitting in her front yard—because people usually sat isolated from one another on their back porches. His curiosity led to a conversation with her, and they shared the desire

that the community members could get to know one another better. Before he left, he thanked her for the conversation and said it was the first time in his ten years of living there that he had had any sort of meaningful interaction with one of his neighbors.

Her mission field was right in front of her the whole time, but she didn't see it until she took the time to be present in the middle of it. Her neighborhood and her local area is her Judea—the place that is culturally similar and geographically nearby, where God is sending her to love her neighbors and to share the story of what God is doing in her life.

Join in the mission of God today by venturing into your neighborhood and surrounding area. Be present among your neighbors, keeping your eyes open for opportunities to see where God is at work. Grab a lawn chair (and your sunglasses, if you can find them), and be present in your community, keeping your eyes open for opportunities to see where God is at work, redeeming and restoring hearts and lives.



**PRAYER:** God of mission, you have been at work in my heart and life, transforming me to be more like Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Now help me to see where you are at work in the neighborhood where I live, where I work, and where I shop. Give me opportunities to love my neighbors, and to be part of your mission that has been nearby me the whole time. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Amy Schenkel is Resonate's regional mission leader for the Great Lakes region.*

## Day 5

### SAMARIA

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

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Now [Jesus] had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?”

**JOHN 4:4-7**

The most direct way from Judea to Galilee was through Samaria, but many Jews, particularly the Galileans, insisted on taking a much longer route around Samaria to avoid crossing paths with Samaritans, whom they despised. For centuries, the Jews and Samaritans hated each other so much that at the time of Jesus’ earthly ministry, he referred to them in a parable showing what it meant to “love your neighbor”



(see Luke 10:25-37). The people of Samaria were a mixture of Jewish and Assyrian ancestry, and the Jews, who worshiped in Jerusalem, generally despised the Samaritans because they were not fully Jewish and they claimed to be the true worshipers of God.

Perhaps I could identify in some ways as a Samaritan because of my status as a foreigner. I moved to the United States from Venezuela in 1998 with many dreams and expectations. I was received as a guest, and for that I am grateful. I came in a different way to the vast majority of Latino immigrants who experience so many difficulties in reaching this country.

When I came to the United States, I observed differences in how people with darker skin have been treated compared to people with lighter skin. For my part, I do not look like the average Latino (I am tall and have European features), and I have not experienced the rejection some of my church members felt. But they would share with me how people made them feel unwelcome. I lament that my Latino people are misunderstood and face discrimination because of the color of their skin. I can only imagine that Samaritans were viewed with a similar gaze of contempt, in part because of their ethnic difference from the Jews.

But in John 4, Jesus follows the most direct route on his journey to Galilee: through Samaria. Jesus' choice was undoubtedly guided for a purpose—as Scripture says, it was necessary to pass through there. God's kingdom has no human boundaries. Stopping at a well, Jesus speaks to the heart of a Samaritan woman and reveals her need for a Savior.

And in this passage Jesus also reveals to the world their need for a Savior who is able to reveal the sinful disdain that Jews had toward foreigners. By mentioning the experience of the Samaritan woman, the apostle John shows that our Savior is aware of ethnic conflicts and knows the details of our lives. In addition, he respects and loves us, regardless of our origin, understanding our needs. Regardless of ethnicity or skin color, Jesus loves us because we are all created in God's image.

The Samaritan woman had lost her sense of identity and was searching for direction. Jesus saw in her the desire for change. The

Samaritan woman was one of the greatest objects of Jewish hatred, but Jesus dignified her and thus shows us the wrongful attitude of labeling with the intent to cause harm.

Because of her faith, the Samaritan woman received insight from the Holy Spirit and testified that Jesus was the Christ, the promised Messiah. The faith and missionary zeal of the Samaritan woman helped soften the hearts of others in her town to accept Jesus as the Christ. Many Samaritans believed in Christ because of the woman's testimony. At their urging, Jesus stayed in Samaria for two days, and "because of his words many more became believers" (John 4:41).

In what ways is God calling you to get to know your neighbors who come from a cultural background that is different from your own?

I am an immigrant, but I have never felt like a foreigner in the Christian Reformed Church. In fact, I thank the Lord for allowing me to be part of this church, since I have always been valued and loved. And like the Samaritan woman, I have seen God use many Latino men and women to bring many to the feet of Christ and empower them for ministry. Thank you, God!



**PRAYER:** Lord, thank you that your kingdom has no human boundaries. Please heal us from any prejudices we have against people who are different from us and open doors for relationships to form so we can live into the good news of the gospel together.

*Mirtha M Villafane is a Resonate Global Mission local mission leader for Classis Greater Los Angeles and the pastor of Latin American CRC in Anaheim, California.*

## Day 6

### THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**


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After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

**REVELATION 7:9**

From the breathtaking scenes of worship in Revelation we know this much to be true: Christ is at the center, and he is surrounded by a great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language.

This great multitude—literally as diverse as humanly possible—is the vision of what the church is and will become. When we join God in mission to alert people from every nation, tribe, people, and language to the universal reign of Christ, we are living toward this ultimate reality.



However, we are clearly not there yet. The global body of Christ is still missing many of its members. In what ways would the gospel radiate through the cultures and languages of Cambodian ethnic groups such as the Cham or the Kuy or the Kavet? We simply do not fully know yet. The global choir is not yet complete.

There's another reason, though, that we haven't yet arrived at that heavenly vision of worship: too often Christ isn't at the center.

Early in my time in Cambodia, an exacerbated local leader told me, "Your advice is like poison!" He was speaking about foreign missionaries, and I was convicted of the truth in his words while being momentarily relieved that his frustration wasn't mainly directed at me. Too often we have given guidance in other lands without fully understanding the complexities of the context and the intricacies of what God has been doing there. Too often we have centered on ourselves and our own cultures rather than on Christ.

The history of global mission is rife with arrogance, abuses of power, and colonialism. I'm part of that too, and I repent.

Faithfully engaging in mission "to the ends of the earth," engaging in mission among people who are culturally different and geographically far from our home, demands that we keep Christ at the center. It demands that I recognize that my hometown outside of Pella, Iowa, is actually farther from Jerusalem than from Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I am a missionary *from* the ends of the earth *to* the ends of the earth. I am a recipient of grace and mission. Not the source.

Christ is always at the center, and Christ calls us to have a global perspective, to invest in God's work everywhere and to receive the gift of God's work everywhere. This is tricky business, more challenging than I ever imagined—and we never get it perfectly right. Even so, global mission is good because this is what Christ intended, that our own flesh and blood would bear witness to his.

Just as we live toward the diverse body of believers, we live toward the centrality of Christ.

I share a home with four Cambodian guys. Last year, as we took in a couple of new members, I asked the oldest guy, Reatrey, to share what he had learned by living together. He talked about forgiveness (we fight), grace (we miscommunicate), and service (we forget to wash our dishes). He finished by saying, "I'm learning to live in the ways of Jesus."

I am too. I am learning to live in the ways of Jesus, to keep Christ at the center. And my Cambodian brothers and sisters—Reatrey, Mao, Vuth, Sarady, Serey, and so many more—are my teachers. They tutor me in resilience, generosity, honor, and evangelism.

Joining God's global mission means humbly living toward the day when the Revelation vision will be our eternal reality. The great multitude of worshipers will be around the throne, and Christ will be fully and finally at the center.



**PRAYER:** Lord, we long for the day when we will join with the great multitude before your throne. Give us the courage and the compassion to work toward that today.

We long too for the day when you—not our cultural idols or arrogance—will fully be the center of our lives and worship. Forgive us, Lord, and use us. Amen.

*Justin Van Zee serves in leadership development with Resonate Global Mission in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.*

## Day 7

### THE ENDS OF THE EARTH


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“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**ACTS 1:8**

As a young boy growing up in Jos, Nigeria, I was always fascinated by the work of missionaries. God's call on people to sacrifice the familiarity of life in one place in order to go out to bear witness to the good news of Jesus somewhere else seemed noble and admirable to me. But bearing witness to the gospel eluded me. "Nigerians can't be missionaries," I thought. "Missionaries are from America or Europe." In my young mind, missionaries also had to look like light-skinned Europeans or Americans. That was what I saw. It became my general reality.

However, in the early 1990s, God radically shifted that worldview. I met Nancy Lee, or "Aunty Nancy," as she was fondly known by us in Nigeria. Aunty Nancy was an African American missionary who bore witness to the gospel of the kingdom of God in Jos, Nigeria. Her ministry centered on Nigerian children and youth, teaching us to study Scripture and to see the richness of the gospel. She presented a rich Christian faith steeped in the African American tradition, while elevating and celebrating the work of the Holy Spirit in the Nigerian church.



A few years later, some longtime family friends, the Bwanhots, heard God's call to be missionaries from Nigeria to the United States. Together with their kids, they served on the south side of Chicago, planting a church and also ministering to new immigrants in the United States, helping them to adjust to life in a foreign country. Many years later, I would benefit from their ministry during holidays as an international student in the United States.

Slowly my worldview of who a missionary needed to be came crashing down. The only prototype for a missionary is Jesus Christ. He is the firstborn over all creation, the original herald and embodiment of the good news of God's kingdom. Through the Spirit, God calls and equips all his followers to bear witness to salvation in Christ alone, declaring the righteous and just reign of Jesus Christ as sovereign over all things. Far from the calling of a few, this is the calling of all of God's children. It involves "the whole church taking the whole gospel to the whole world."

Your Jerusalem is another Christ-follower's end of the earth, and your end of the earth is another Christ-follower's Jerusalem. The same call to be witnesses is given to Christians from every tribe, tongue, and nation. This call has been universal since the inception of the church in Acts, with devout Jews from all over the world gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost. All of us are missionaries, each with a unique calling, capacity, and context, given by God to share the gospel till it resounds to the ends of the earth!

Jesus is Lord! Let this message echo from the towering hills of Jos, Nigeria, to the rolling plains of Pella, Iowa. Jesus is Lord! Let this message echo from the hallowed church steeples of Grand Rapids, Michigan, to the sacred living room churches in Beijing, China. Jesus is Lord! Let this message echo from the mesas of the Navajo Nation to the streets of inner-city Houston. The call goes out to all people: "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21). The Spirit has been poured out on all of us. None of us represent complete



gospel truth on our own. That is why radical learning, hospitality, and partnership are important. Our united witness of the gospel is itself a powerful witness to the gospel's power.

Today, by God's grace, the Lord calls me to be a missionary from Nigeria to the United States. I live, work, worship, and play in Houston's historic Third Ward, a culturally rich African American neighborhood. My work as a partner missionary with Resonate Global Mission moves me to mobilize gospel-shaped, wholehearted, justice-driven leaders for the social and spiritual renewal of communities. God has elected, equipped, and empowered me for this work. As the threads of my story are woven with the narratives of God's people here, the ends of the earth are quickly becoming another Jerusalem.



**PRAYER:** May our collective witness always point to Jesus, who is all and in all—from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth, and back again.

*John Eigege is a CRC community chaplain in the Third Ward neighborhood of Houston, Texas.*

## *What's Next?*

Throughout this week's mission emphasis devotional, you explored what it means to live out Acts 1:8 in your life. But what's next? We have a few simple steps you can take.

Visit [www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/NextSteps](http://www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/NextSteps)

*Engaging People. Embracing Christ.*

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