

## Discussion Guide:

### The Ascended King

**Passage:** Acts 1:1-11 & Luke 24:50-53

**Summary:** The Ascension is as essential as the cross and the empty tomb, because Jesus's work was not complete until he was enthroned as King. When the cloud received him, it was not a sad departure but a royal arrival — the Son of Man taking his place with all authority over everything beneath his feet. The enthroned Jesus is also our great High Priest, interceding for his people by name at the very throne of grace. Because he ascended, he sent the Holy Spirit — the risen King present with every believer, empowering his church for mission. The King who ascended is coming back — and until that day, we live under his reign, carried by his Spirit, and sent on his mission.

### Discussion Questions

1. Jesus met Thomas in his doubt — he didn't avoid him or rebuke him. He came near and showed his wounds. What does that tell you about how Jesus responds to doubt? Have you ever experienced a season of doubt? What happened?
2. Read Psalm 110:1. It says the Father tells the Son — "*Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool.*" The sermon said: "If Christ's enemies are his footstool, then the things that keep you awake at night are currently under his feet." What is one thing in your life right now that you need to place under his feet?
3. Read 2 Peter 3:8–9. It says God is not slow — he is *patient*, not willing that any should perish. Is there someone you have been praying for — a family member, a friend — who has not yet come to faith? How does God's patience speak to that situation?
4. Read Acts 1:8 . It says the power of the Spirit is given for *witness* — not for your own comfort or strength, but to make Christ known. What is one specific person in your life — a neighbor, coworker, or friend — who needs to hear about Jesus? What would one step of faith look like this week?
5. Read Acts 1:11 — "*This Jesus will come in the same way as you saw him go.*" How does knowing the King is coming back change the way you live right now? Does it create urgency? Hope? Both?
6. What is one thing from this sermon that you want to carry with you into this week? It could be a truth, a verse, a question, or a specific action.

*At the end, take some time to pray for one another in smaller groups.*