

## OPEN

Go around and let everyone answer...

What made your hometown special in your personal experience?

## DIG

In the book of Acts, the writer Luke explains how early Christians shared with the poor (4:32-37), proclaimed good news in many places (8:1-8), and encouraged both prisoners and guards (16:25-34). Notice that Luke showed how the church carried out the mission of Jesus as prophesied in the following story that he also recorded in his Gospel of Luke.

**Read LUKE 4:14-21** to identify ways that Jesus expected his mission would fulfill the ancient prophecy of Isaiah and change the world.

*"...the Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to..."*

What specific things does this passage identify as the work of Christ?

In what ways did Jesus himself fulfill these prophecies?

From what you know of Christian history, how have these prophecies been fulfilled through the work of Christians in the past centuries?

**Read LUKE 4:22-24** and look for how the people of Jesus' hometown responded to his message.

*"...no prophet is accepted in his hometown."*

Why would the people of Nazareth, where Jesus grew up, be skeptical about his potential?

What makes it hard for churches in general to have a greater impact in our own culture today?

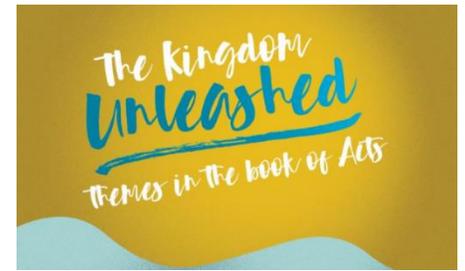
## APPLY

Do you feel that the ministry calling of Jesus is also your personal calling as his follower? Why or why not?

How do hometown people respond to your message or example of faith?

In what ways would you like to increase the ways that you impact the world for good in the next year?

-GLR



## Leaders

### Sermon Series

This discussion guide is based on a sermon series entitled "The Kingdom Unleashed: Themes in the Book of Acts." The series is designed to motivate people to embrace the Kingdom of God in their lives, making disciples of others.

### Big Idea

This lesson demonstrates how the early church fulfilled the call to carry on the work of Christ in the world. It also calls all of us to continue that same work today.

### Prayer

Pray for God to open your eyes to see opportunities to bless people in the name of Christ.

### Group Discussion Reminder

Groups offer a great setting to find ways to bless our communities. Ask if there is any need in our community or city that can be helped by your group. If any specific thing is identified, make a plan of action.