

**Word Notes Sunday 31/08/14**  
**Tony Hodge – Mission: Possible**

**Summary** (read this bit out to remind cell members what was said on Sunday)

**Key Texts: Acts 1:1-8**

Some of Jesus' last words to his disciples were a call to mission (Matt 28:18) yet he was leaving them to ascend to the Father. If that sounds a bit like some remote voice on a tape giving the church an impossible mission using just our own skills and strengths then take heart – we're not alone.

Having appeared a number of times to the disciples and others Jesus left them with this instruction: Wait in Jerusalem for the promised Holy Spirit. It would be the Holy Spirit who would empower them to be witnesses – and not just to their friends but the whole world.

The church today carries the same mission and the same Holy Spirit is poured out to enable us to do our part. Three simple lessons can be gained from these few verses:

The disciples were with Jesus. Unless we are prepared to spend time with Jesus we'll miss out. The disciples heard and obeyed. We too need to be obedient to God to receive the blessing. The Holy Spirit came. What God has promised He will deliver!

**Application** (this is the bit where cell members get to participate. Lead discussions around these points)

The disciples might have given up after Jesus' death but they didn't, why? What keeps you engaged with Jesus or what is lacking that leaves you disengaged or indifferent?

Obedience starts with wanting to obey Jesus' commands but continues with following where he leads:

- How do you determine this?
- What is the role of leaders, preachers etc?

Are you walking in obedience and the Spirit? Are you prepared to do uncomfortable, crazy, inconvenient things as well as the mundane and necessary? If so what do you think the Holy Spirit is saying to you right now?

**Witness** (this is the bit where the cell talks and prays about how to share the Good News)

Your cell group is more than the sum of its parts. Briefly share two things:

- A short list of gifts and skills you can give to God in extending the Kingdom
- What you think God's call to mission means in your life.

Add in the Holy Spirit and what might you achieve together?