

# Acts 1:7-8 Exercise

You may find it helpful (and less risky) to think about the people you might witness to by considering the instruction received by the apostles of Jesus just prior to the Ascension (where Jesus is taken up into the heavens following the resurrection).

This account is found in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles:

“[Y]ou 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 1:7-8)

To provide a visual of this instruction, consider the following image:



At the center of the target (the inner circle) is the Jerusalem group. These are the people you are closest to. Family. Friends. Deep connections with these people already exist. These are people with whom it is easier to share your faith story.

The next circle out on the target includes the people you know (your network of friends and acquaintances) and represents the Judean group. This group will require more intentionality on your part if you want to build deep relationships with them, but there is at least a beginning connection.

The third ring out represents the Samaritan group. This group is comprised of people that are not found in your normal circles of relationships. You do not already have a connection established with them, but they are people with whom you interact in some way, and there is potential for building a relationship.

Outside the circles of the target image are the “ends of the earth” people to whom we are called to witness. This, of course, may happen through participation in a regional or even international mission experience. It could also happen with people you meet while on vacation, sitting around the campfire or joining you at your table for dinner on a cruise.