



This series is based on the verse Acts 1:8, “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.*”

This series aims to challenge your students to look at their lives as a missional part of God’s overall redemptive plan to the world.

It will challenge them to:

- Choose one friend who doesn’t know Jesus,
- Face opposition, obstacles and temptation,
- Step outside their comfort zone,
- Make a global Impact around the world.

All of this sounds crazily difficult and intimidating. However, it all starts with one small step of obedience right where your students are.

This is a great series to teach during summer camp or mission trip sign-ups. And you can do some sort of collection campaign while in the middle of it. Of course, you don’t have to do this, but such a campaign lends itself nicely to the series concepts.

This series comes with:

- Teaching manuscripts
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Graphics
- Social Media Follow-up

We used this series for our student ministry in January of 2022 and the entire series can be found in our personal adaption for it on our YouTube page: [parkviewstudents.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpKv1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1v1).



**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 2:41-52

**BIG IDEA:** *You can make a BIG Impact, by obeying where God has placed you.*

**[LEADER NOTE:** I began by telling a personal story of “plopping rocks” in a pond as a preschooler. The goal of my story was to talk about the ripple effect the rock makes as it hits the water. It makes an impact, and then it spreads it out. Maybe you don’t have a plopping rock story, but you could tell one, or create one with an object lesson to lead out the gate. The ripple effect is a strong theme woven throughout the entire series.]

**Personal Illustration:** When I was a kid, probably only two or three years old, one of my oldest memories is doing a thing called “plopping rocks.”

I would walk down a gravel path and go to the pond. Now, like I said, I was young, so this ginormous pond might have just been nothing larger than a drainage ditch. But I’d get to the pond and grab some rocks, and then I’d begin plopping them. Which is preschool speak for throwing rocks into the water.

What happened when I took a rock and tossed it in the water? You know, right? It made a splash. But after the splash, then what? A ripple effect was created in the water. The bigger the rock, the larger the ripple. The smaller the rock, the smaller the ripple.

Now, think about this: if you and I want to create an impact in the water with a rock, throwing the rock in the water is going to be a necessary thing to do. You can’t make a difference, without first making an impact with the rock.

Now, what’s interesting, is this same age-old idea of “plopping rocks” is found in the pages of Scripture. It’s actually the basis for how Jesus chose to impact the world through His disciples. Check it out.

***“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 (NLT)***

If you follow the logical flow of Jesus' thought, Jerusalem was where the disciples were when He said this to them. And if you looked at a map of the region, as you expand out beyond Jerusalem, you'd come to the region of Judea, then to the region of Samaria, and then ultimately you'd find yourself to the ends of the Earth.

Jesus' disciples would have got this, just like we would get

- *(Insert Your church town)*
- *(Your church region or suburb)*
- *(Your State)*
- Ends of the Earth

*(Hold a rock)* - Now I don't know about you, but maybe you're thinking... *I didn't sign up to be Jesus' witness! I want to make an impact on the world, but not through being Jesus' witness.*

Did you know, Jesus felt a little bit the same way when He got started?

When Jesus was at a wedding, his mother, Mary, put Him on the spot, and look at how Jesus responded!

*"Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." John 2:4 (NLT)*

I share that verse just to show that even the Son of God sometimes wasn't ready to step out in this way. There was a period of time in which Jesus wasn't yet ready to go public. He wasn't ready to be thrown into the "waters of this world."

His goal wasn't recognition. His goal was faithfulness and developing His character in the moment where He was. How did He do that?

Check this out: **Luke 2:41-47 (NLT)**

*"Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. Luke 2:41-42 (NLT)*

I want to pause at this phrase quickly: "As usual." In addition to their regular church attendance and spiritual disciplines, Jesus' family took time out of

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