

Church on Mission

Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.

Date: 23 April 2017

Preacher: Chris Thornton

[0 : 00] Okay. Welcome, everyone, to Watermark. If it's your first time, if it's your hundredth time, it's just such a privilege to be here together, to really come into God's presence and to experience His Spirit at work amongst us this morning. My name's Chris, and we're going to be looking at the book of Acts over the next little while. Before I start, I just want to pray.

Because I want to pray for God's Spirit to really speak to us. And I want you to pray with me. Father, we need you. We want to hear from you this morning. I pray that my words would be your words, that you would speak. Remove anything that is not from you. Let your word touch our hearts and let us go and do what you call us to do in the power of your Spirit. Open our eyes in Jesus' name. Amen.

I don't know if any of you have ever seen the U.S. TV show Seinfeld. Has anyone seen Seinfeld? There's a few people. For those of you who don't know, it was a very popular show in the U.S. And a few years ago, some researchers wanted to find out why this show was so popular. Because the show actually markets itself as a show with no plot. Okay? And so what basically happens, it just kind of wanders from scene to scene, and it's described as a show about nothing.

That's the way they market it. And so researchers wanted to find out why is this so popular. And so they went onto campuses, they did a whole load of research, and you know what they found? They found the reason that this was so popular was because it mirrored the lives of the viewers who watched it. They related totally to this life with no plot and no purpose in their lives. That's what the research showed. And I think that's really interesting because isn't that so much of actually what Hong Kong life really is like as well? You know, we're on this hamster wheel where, you know, we go to school, and then we're dying to get through this exam. And then, and then we get through the exam, and then we're dying to go to university. And then, then we graduate from university, and we're dying to get a job. And then we, we, we get a job. But then we're dying very soon, maybe six months afterwards, to get another job. And then we're dying to get married.

[2 : 38] And then when we get married, then we're dying to have a family. And then we get family. And then we're dying for the family to grow up and leave so we can retire. And then when we retire, we're dying to do something meaningful, and then we're just dying.

right isn't that so much of life without a plot to it not part of a bigger story and you know if you run a startup the way many of us in this city run our lives it would be bankrupt within a couple of months because i i don't know if you just imagine you walk into like an it startup and you say to an employee what are you doing and they'd say i'm typing okay and you say okay why are you typing they say i i don't know why i'm typing i'm just doing what everyone else was doing and you'd look at that and you'd think they're wasting something there there's got to be more to life than that and the purpose of the book of acts and the purpose of what we're going to look at is we need to know the why we need to know the purpose we need to know the story that we're part of otherwise you'll end up just kind of doing stuff but maybe you'll end up wasting your life and so the book of acts is um we're going to look over the next 10 weeks at the first six chapters to help us refocus on what the story we're part of what is it that we're meant to be about as church what is it that it means to be a christian in this city because my strong belief is god has not got us here for some kind of plotless wandering existence we're part of something bigger and so we've looked over this year we've looked at the book of deuteronomy which showed us the god the call of god to love him and love other people we've seen how we failed at that the people of israel failed we've seen how jesus comes along and sinners encounter jesus and when they meet with jesus there's a transformation which takes place in their lives and we looked last week and last week was easter and it's very fitting that we're starting the book of acts last week last week we had baptism for those of you not here it's just a great time and and it's just such a fitting time because the book of acts comes

straight after easter straight after the resurrection of jesus and that's where we pick it up and so what i'm going to look at today i just want to kind of introduce the book of acts to us and then i want to look at power i want to look at purpose and i want to look at the ascended king okay so i'm just going to introduce acts then we're going to look at power purpose and the ascended king so if you've got your bulletin have it open i'm particularly going to going to focus on verses six to eight but let me just introduce acts to you um acts is written by luke who colossians four tells us is a doctor he's a convert to christianity he's well traveled he's well educated and presumably very well off as well to get an education to be able to write his book he writes some of the best greek in the whole of the new testament and you know he's also a sometime companion of paul because we know in the book of acts in chapter 16 the pronouns switch from he says they did this to we did this so paul luke is traveling along at some point with with um with paul and he sees firsthand how the gospel is spreading throughout the roman empire and so verse uh verses one to five of this book of acts are really like the the introduction for us and he's writing to this guy called theophilus which basically means lover of god and he's a wealthy greek guy presumably a young christian like many of us he's going through moments of doubt he's like is jesus the real deal is his kingdom really as powerful as you say it is because i look around me and i look at the roman empire and it seems so much stronger and christianity is like this little speck on the map is it real and so this is the second time luke is writing this is kind of um the first time was the book the gospel of luke you know luke and acts go together okay they're like you know it's like star wars and the empire strikes back you know it's kind of this is the sequel to the book of luke and and if you recollect what luke is about and luke is really about um what he does he collects a whole load of eyewitness evidence to show you theophilus that what i've taught you about jesus this is sure this is true you can have certainty about this that's what book one was about book two is kind of starts off as kind of like the um and previously on you know those tv shows which they they kind of start at the beginning and they're like and previously on the amazing race you know john got attacked by a hamster and then uh you know and he got eliminated you know that kind of thing um that's what acts starts off with the and previously and he says basically jesus was the messiah the king who taught about the kingdom he died he rose again and he headed to jerusalem and in jerusalem that's where he died that's where he brought forgiveness salvation to people and then acts it's not about going to jerusalem acts is about going from jerusalem this gospel message going out into the world okay it's about how jesus reigns how his kingdom spreads you know it says you'll be my witnesses in judea and in jerusalem in all judea and samaria and to the ends of the earth and so what you'll see is jesus is starting a gospel movement which goes first of all and you'll see in the book of acts the first seven chapters it's jerusalem and judea okay that's kind of like hong kong island okay and then then it goes to chapter eight is goes to samaria that's like kowloon and new territories and then chapter 13 and onwards it's going out to the ends of the earth that's kind of everywhere else right that's what's going and the implication is when you get to chapter 28 paul is in rome and he's proclaiming the kingdom of god and the implication is jesus hasn't finished yet the kingdom is still going there's a chapter 29 okay and you know we as watermarkers his church are in chapter 29 there's only 28 chapters in acts by the way okay we're in chapter 29 of how jesus is continuing to spread his kingdom and we're part of it that's the story we're part of and we're living out this extension of this gospel movement that's spreading so that's that's where we are we're in that story that's what book of acts is about so let's look verses six to eight and i want to show you something about power and then purpose and then the ascended king verse um it says uh verse eight says you will receive power when the holy spirit has come upon you you know power is pretty vital in the world things don't move without power you know get in your car there's no power you're not going anywhere turn on the lights no power you're in the dark one guy called moose name said power is what we exercise over others that leads them to behave in ways they otherwise would not have done okay leads you to behave in ways you otherwise would not have done i find that really actually really helpful because um who who is jesus talking to when he's when he's talking here who's he talking to it's not a trick question he's talking to the disciples okay do you remember what's happened like six weeks earlier the disciples good friday like he's talking to a load of guys who've just denied him who've run away in fear who locked themselves in a room because they didn't want anyone to know that they were followers of him these are the people he's talking to they're totally weak wimps and cowards okay and then jesus rises from the dead brings them forgiveness restoration and jesus doesn't kind of say hey guys i've done all the hard work of rising again now i'm leaving it over to you when i come back i expect you to see some results from

you guys jesus doesn't say that he says i'm going to give you power because i know that you're weak because i know that you're weak because and this is what we saw with peter last week christianity starts continues and finishes on your knees recognizing your weakness and your powerlessness not your capability it starts you cannot live the christian life if you think you're capable of living did you get that you can't live it if you think you can do it in your own power because actually you're weak the disciples knew that you know paul the great apostle says i delight in my weaknesses because when i'm weak then i'm strong because god's power rests on me you know i think most people are probably like me i delight in strength you know i hate it when i feel weak right you know because i feel kind of vulnerable and exposed you know it's like you have those awkward moments of silence where what well it's kind of silent for a while and you know you feel like when you're talking to someone and you feel a little bit naked and exposed and you've got to say something to kind of break the silence because we don't like that feeling of vulnerability we don't like those feelings of weakness because we want to feel in control we want to feel competent all the time right don't we and so what we do when we feel a little bit like out of control insecure we try and run as quickly as possible to a place where we're feeling strong again but jesus says the normal christian life get this the normal christian life comes and living at the intersection of your weakness and god's power do you get that the normal christian life is living at the intersection of your weakness and his power that's normal christian living and i don't know what i don't know what kind of week you've had but i'm just kind of looking over my week and i'm just i'm i'm wishing that there were times that i've been bolder i'm wishing that there were times that i hadn't given into temptation or eaten that extra piece of cake that i did there i you know i don't like feeling like sometimes i'm not quite strong enough i'm not quite good enough at things but jesus says to his disciples you guys need power stop trying to rely on yourself i've brought you to your knees now i'm going to give you what you need and he says power will come upon you when the holy spirit comes on you so we need to talk a little bit about the holy spirit because um some people get weirded out by the holy spirit you know we're um we're happy with father son and holy bible but um but father son and the holy ghost you know it sounds a bit creepy it sounds a bit weird right um you know others of us are kind of a little bit too obsessed with the spirit you know we judge every spirit about whether it's spirit filled and and what that really means i'm not quite sure what that means but what i think it means is there's a kind of special kind of atmosphere with a kind of happening by vibe and god's word often is kind of secondary to some good feelings that i have that's often the way we define it but john 15 says this when the helper comes whom i will send to you from the father the spirit of truth he will bear

witness about me now we need to get this every christian if you're a christian you have the spirit of god living in you but there's something we forget j.i packer who's a british theologian he says said this about the holy spirit he said the holy spirit is like floodlights okay floodlights you know if you go to the the rugby sevens you don't go like at night wow aren't the floodlights amazing right you're not kind of focusing the whole time on the floodlights the floodlights are there to help you focus on the game right and so he says actually the holy spirit is not there to get you obsessed by the holy spirit the holy spirit is there to get you obsessed by jesus is to reveal jesus to you through his word to convict you of your sin to empower you to live and obey him and to speak of him so that you're so filled with jesus that it's just overflowing that he wants to equip you with what you cannot do and fill you with what you cannot fill yourself with which is so much more of him that's what the spirit is there to do and he does it in a number of ways and luke uses the terminology here he says and he uses interchangeably he says spirit will come upon you you'll be baptized you'll be filled with the spirit you'll be clothed with power those are all words that luke uses to describe the spirit and and he's describing here not just something of conversion this filling with the spirit because it happens this filling of the spirit this baptizing the spirit happens again and again and again in the book of acts you know to the same disciples so in in ephesians 5 paul tells the church keep on being filled with the spirit okay that's continuous tense so what is that like what is that like well there's a there's a couple of different things which i think it means um romans 8 it says the spirit bears witness there's that word witness again to your spirit that you are children of god okay he bears witness your spirit that you are children of god the spirit reveals the gospel god's word to you in a way that takes it out of your head and puts it down here into your heart and sets you on fire martin lloyd jones um who's a welsh preacher he used to use this this analogy he said the filling with the spirit is like a father walking down the road with his son holding his son hand and the son feels safe and secure but then suddenly the father sweeps down picks up the son holds him hugs him kisses him tells him how

much he loves him and then he kind of goes to put him down then he brings him again and holds him again and tells him he loves him then puts him down they carry on walking again along the street and that son is as he's walking down he lloyd jones says this you can scarcely contain yourself and you want to cry out my father loves me my father loves me oh what a great father i have what a father what a father that's what the spirit wants to do in our lives to excite us about jesus about who what it is to be his children there's a deep assurance a confidence of the truthfulness of what christ has done on the cross and we we find that assurance and that confidence in his love so that we don't have to be so self-conscious it drives out fear and it produces joy that we're loved we're loved and we don't rely on experiences that we've got to be careful we don't rely on experiences uh to to kind of base our faith on

[19:08] our faith is not based on feelings it's based on the word of god and the everyday experience of faith is walking hand in hand with your father that's what faith is like hearing his voice through god's word the bible but what he then wants us to do is as he calls us on a mission which we cannot do to obey him in ways that we know we cannot he wants us to call out to him in our weakness and to cry with expectation that he'll fill us with his spirit with his love which will embolden us to go out and proclaim his word tim keller says the spirit enables you to say if someone as all-powerful as god loves me like this delights in me has gone to infinite lengths to save me says he will never let me go and he's going to glorify me and make me perfect and take everything bad out of my life if that is true why am i worried about anything why am i worried about anything you see in our weakness the spirit wants to give us a new confidence in christ and his word which sends us out in new boldness do you know what happens peter you know what peter was like last week he's just total coward he was a chicken no courage in front of a servant girl to stand up for jesus after pentecost holy spirit comes upon him and he's out in the middle of his crowds he's out in the middle of those who even killed jesus and he's testifying to the truthfulness of the gospel and how amazing jesus is you know he's gone from being a chicken to a lion and he gets arrested and when he's arrested you know he's taken before the authorities and they all see he's not very educated he's not a great speaker he doesn't know how to do all the kind of great eloquence but you know he's filled with the spirit and he just speaks with boldness and you're like everyone's looking what happened to that guy what happened to him what happened to peter he's speaking the word with boldness the spirit wants to fill us in our weakness and you know i look at my life and i often wonder in my life and i wonder if you do in yours are there things which are going on in your life which can only be explained supernaturally by the power of the spirit working in you and i'm not just talking kind of big miracles although i believe god does that i'm also talking the spouse who perseveres year after year with somebody in praying for their unbelieving partner even though you want to give up i'm talking about the employee who stands for christ even when it could cost them their job because they refuse to act unethically because they want to honor christ it's what jordan said about sawyer last week who was so timid before and is now standing up and talking about her faith and it's only the glory of god that can do that you know one of the things i think that stops me stops us experiencing the power of god is that we want to be safe we want to have everything so we feel in control we want to do things so we don't want to step out because we don't want to feel uncomfortable we don't want to feel inadequate we don't want to feel incapable of doing things so we just stick to what we know how to do anyone do that but we won't see his power until we're weak until we get to seeing where he wants us to go and we're on our knees saying jesus unless you do this in me i cannot and that's where his power is shown that's why 955 on a sunday we're getting people together to pray and if you want to see god's power in this church in your life i encourage you to come

955 every sunday to come and pray and seek god for that sense of his power which to do what we cannot do we need jesus we need his spirit do you want to live an explainable life or do you want to live a life which is only explained by the glory and power of king jesus through his spirit i do that's the power now let's think about the purpose because the power is not just for ourselves it says you will receive power when the holy spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses in jerusalem and on all judea and samaria and to the ends of the earth you see i'm i'm really encouraged when i look at the disciples because there's so much like you and me i mean jesus died risen from the dead taught them everything about the kingdom of god and after all that they're thinking jesus are you now going to restore israel what that means is like are you now going to bring us back our national pride so we can make life comfortable for ourselves and we can have a great

time here together you know you're going to bring down the property prices stabilize the markets provide abundant free school places and jesus says guys you're thinking israel i'm thinking the world you're staying local i'm thinking global you see he says the power is to come so that you can be witnesses my witnesses my witnesses what's a witness well luke is actually picking up some language from the book of isaiah isaiah 43 where he says um says i i am the lord and beside me there is no savior i declared and saved and proclaimed and you are my witnesses that's isaiah and luke's picking that up and he's wanting to say what is a witness a witness is someone who has seen and experienced something right someone who's seen and experienced something the disciples were witnesses to the life the death and the resurrection of christ that there was no savior besides him and they would have proclaimed that to all the nations around them now lloyd jones again says there's a difference between an advocate a lawyer my wife's a lawyer so i've got to be careful but an advocate and a witness you see a lawyer an advocate can prepare a case dispassionately like not really fully emotionally involved their only invested interest can be i put can just to get out of trouble okay can be money pride or their own reputation right but a witness in the court is someone who's involved who says i saw it i experienced it i was touched by that event it's different and if you're a christian you have the holy spirit living inside of you who has caused you to see and experience something about jesus right you see if you haven't if you say well i just come to church then you're probably not a christian because the definition of christian is someone who's the spirit of god has shown the gospel in your life and has changed you to see jesus now the problem with the way we talk about the spirit often these days is we talk about it we want the power it's all exciting and we all want to make it about making my own little world a bit better that's what the disciples want but the spirit witnesses you remember that word keeps coming up witnesses to your spirit so that you can then be a witness to the world do you get how that goes so he's witnessing to you about jesus love for you so you can go witness to others about his love for them he speaks god's word to you through the bible through sermons through others so that you can speak it to others that's how god's kingdom spreads it spreads through his word by the power of his spirit that's our mission as watermark do you get that that's our mission we're part of this story to spread his word but you know whenever a community group becomes simply a place to be with friends whenever it becomes whenever you come just to listen to a sermon for yourself and there's no overflow to others that's no longer jesus kingdom that's my kingdom it's what i i call constipated church food goes in nothing comes out don't take that too far that analogy but but it's dangerous if you keep eating and nothing's coming out okay i'm putting images in your mind here but you get the idea you're that can kill you that can kill you and the question is is that you are you receiving but not telling are you gaining but not showing are you having the spirit witness to you but you're holding it in are you a constipated christian because i confess that often i am and we need to repent of that because we're missing the story we're part of what's witnessing witnessing is simply experiencing jesus falling in love with jesus through his word in our lives and being transparent about it with other people that's all it is experiencing god's working in your life speaking to you and just being transparent about it with others you know we do it all the time i was on on monday we went out with theo's family we're going hiking and the kids they love football do you know what they spent a whole lot of time witnessing to me about how every player that they like is great and amazing they witnessed about the greatness of leonel leonel messi they witnessed about so many players you know we witness about tv shows we witness about our kids like how many parents of you have a new baby and then you're like oh yeah i'm just a bit embarrassed to talk about it we're not because because when you've got something which really touches your heart some way somehow it's going to come out it's going to come out and if you're not a christian and the idea of sharing about jesus seems strange or seems like you're imposing your views on other people just think if you have a friend who's got incurable cancer and you discovered a cure for it wouldn't you want to tell them like wouldn't it actually be incredibly unloving not to tell them right but so often what happens is life happens i get distracted i want to be comfortable and we become inward and when we do as a church we become aimless and we miss the power of the spirit because we think we can do it but we need him on our knees and you know let me ask you a question if you're a christian when was the last time you actually witnessed to somebody about your faith when was the last time you shared i'm not saying gave a 15 minute sermon i'm not even saying gave gave um gave a whole load of principles i'm just saying shared something about jesus with someone who didn't know that's not a question to lead you into guilt that's a question to challenge you because you know when somebody says to me and i say this to people as well you know well i don't have

many opportunities i know i know i've experienced that but the first thing i ask is well have you prayed about it have you prayed for opportunities and you know what my answer normally is well no not normally that's normally the response you know even this week just even preparing this i've had to repent of the times where i've actually i know this but i've stopped praying for the opportunities and so every day like i'm now praying before i go out of the house with fiona we pray god give us opportunities today to share you give us the boldness to be able to take them give us the wisdom to know how to do it and if i don't give those opportunities then let me just honor you anyway and you know what i'm getting so many more opportunities and you're so much more aware of them when you start taking them i'm not saying run straight into your office tomorrow morning handing out tracts and everything all the desks you know i'm not saying that i'm saying we witness to people in a context of getting to know them intentionally building relationships loving people listening to them but just being transparent in the context of relationship that's what it is that's what it is and when we have no idea where to start we begin with prayer we begin with prayer we say god spirit you need to lead me because i have no idea what to do and he'll show you he'll give you ideas he'll show you but we're a church for those who are not in church that's what we're here for there's power there's a purpose purpose is the mission to proclaim jesus the power is the the fuel to be able to do that final thing there's an ascended king ascended king i don't have time really to go into depth in this um but i don't know if you realize how significant the ascension is in christian life um it says at the end of the passage jesus was lifted up in a cloud took him out of their sight and two men come down and they say this jesus who was taken from you into heaven will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven he's ascended and jesus says the ascent so tim keller says the ascension is a bit like the detonator which sets off the bomb of the the resurrection the death of jesus and the resurrection everything that he accomplished on the cross forgiving sins defeating death rising again all of that is detonated when he rises again and he ascends to the place of the father's right hand that's what acts 2 says he's exalted at the right hand of the father you see because where he's exalted he's directing his mission through his spirit he's ascended to the throne where he reigns now if i ascend to the throne of england there's two ways i could do it

i could go up into buckingham palace and i can just walk up the steps and i could go down and sit on elizabeth's throne now what would change if i did that i'd probably get thrown out and put in jail that's probably all that would change in the uk i might make news but nothing much would change if you if you physically just go up some steps it doesn't doesn't actually change a lot but if prince william or prince harry or any other princes ascend to the throne what happens what happens there's a regime change something significant has happened which could although they're pretty insignificant now but in the past would have shaped the whole of the country you see ascension is not just kind of some spatial idea of kind of going up it's actually an idea that he goes up to reign on the throne and when the last things that he says are all authority jesus says all authority in heaven and earth have been given to me do you get that he says all authority has been given to me then he says therefore go go because i'm reigning i'm on the throne therefore go with confidence confidence and what that means right now whatever is happening in your life right now whatever is happening in this church right now whatever is happening in this city right now jesus is on the throne and he's reigning do you get that he's reigning it's under his control and there's as he reigns his kingdom is unstoppable because he's on the throne and nothing's going to stop him at the ascension 100 people were following jesus bit by bit that spread throughout the entire world till now there is christians in every single country of this world when his word is proclaimed when people are his witnesses the spirit empowers and leads and guides he's going to do his work here's the final two things that is an encouragement and a challenge because i don't know about you sometimes things happen a lot slower than i wish they did anyone get that feeling there are people i want to become christians who i've been praying for a long time for them to become christians and they haven't yet there are things in myself that i want to change and it just doesn't seem to happen as quickly as i want them to there are things in the church that i want to change and they don't seem to happen as quickly as i want them to and you can get discouraged and feel like is it worth it but the doctrine of ascension is liberating because it means if jesus is truly reigning then things are going absolutely according to his plan and it's not out of control and he's going to do what we cannot do he's going to accomplish his kingdom purposes you know just go back to the story of sire and jordan last week when we have given up praying jesus is still reigning and working i know there are people in this congregation who you have been praying for decades for family members to come to

christ and i know last year two or three of your fathers came to christ in their 70s and 80s just when we give up hope the kingdom still works because god is reigning that's the encouragement [39 : 25] doesn't matter how slow it feels he is working it out you can trust him but there's a challenge here's the final thing if jesus is reigning one day he'll return and he'll look at all that has been doing and he'll look at how much we've turned to him on our knees saying we need you and he'll look at whether as a church whether as individuals we lived life wandering around or in part of his story not perfectly but with him i went to a bowling alley this week it's amazing if you go to these bowling alleys because sometimes have you seen there's these guys they're just dressed in all the gear you know they look really cool they look just so professional they've got all this gear they've got the glove and everything they've got their own ball as they come in and they're all looking kind of really cool and you know i'm seeing them coming along and they do even the little foot thing you know they kind of you know they look so professional and i saw them as coming up to do this and doing all the stuff and then i saw them and i was thinking wow they're just going to swerve the ball around and do all these kind of crazy things and it's going to hit their strike every time and one of them comes up he does this and it's just like a three year old bowling it's like kind of plops on the ground and just kind of trickles along and then goes into the gutter and i'm like what's going on there and and and it wasn't just one there was a few of them and i thought about it at the end of the their their their time bowling if they looked up at the scoreboard it doesn't matter how great the clothing looked like doesn't matter how great the kind of technique looked like doesn't matter about actually any of the things the key purpose was did they hit the pins and it doesn't matter as a church how beautiful we look it doesn't matter how how how wonderful our bible studies are it doesn't matter about those things but are we doing what Christ has called us to do are we doing what he's called us to do not in our own power because you know the ball which you hold is actually too heavy for you to bowl we can't be witnesses by ourselves i don't have the power for that i know i mess up every week but he says i want the spirit to come alongside you because you know what the spirit is it's like he comes alongside you holds your arm and he says okay and he holds it and he's the one with his power that bowls the ball towards the pins to do what we cannot do and when we fail and when we actually fail to trust the spirit and we just we do it and we drop the ball in the gutter he just says come back to me turn back on your knees realize your weakness repent and let's go again because i'm the one who's going to do it i'm the one who's going to build my kingdom there's a power you're part of a story which i'm working out will you trust me will you get on and do what i've called you to do i want us to pray because in a second what i want i have up here you may not be able to see it i'll see if i can move these i have a banner it's actually a stretcher i've taken the other part out we did this a few years ago as part of watermark and what i want you to do is this is a stretcher because stretchers are meant to carry people and save them to bring them to christ like the man who brought his his paralytic guy on a stretcher to bring him to christ what i want us to do is i want us to pray for a second i want us to spend a minute maybe we need to repent maybe we need to

just run back to him and father and say i've been distracted i'm not doing what you've called me to do maybe you're not a christian and you need to actually think does my life have a real purpose am i part of a story because jesus wants you to be part of his story and if you're not he calls you to come to him today but i want you to come up in a minute when you've when you've when you spend a minute just praying i want you to come up and i want you to write the names of one two or three people that you have on your heart that you would want to be able to witness to that you would want to come to know christ and i want you as you do that just to be praying praying praying for opportunities praying that god might work in their lives his kingdom word would come and he would save them so let's just shut our eyes for a minute if the band wants to come up just want you to think am i struggling to trust him where am i do i just need to ask for him to fill me with his love again and experience him through his word again just spend a minute just with christ now and then when you're ready i just want you to think one two three people i want you to come up and to write their names on here and we'll pray for that
Thank you.