**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. April 23, 2017**

**There’s Still More Work To Be Done**

ACTS 1:1-11

**Key truth:** The resurrection of Jesus isn’t the end of a great story but is a historical reality that energized a great movement called the “Church”.

1. Jesus is alive.

 A. The fact that Jesus is alive should remove all fear and

 excuses for living an unfulfilled life.

 B. As Christians our main priority is to see the Kingdom

 of God realized on earth.

 C. Jesus has promised to never leave you alone.

 1. The Holy Spirit produces the life of Jesus in every

 believer.

2. The church’s threefold purpose:

 A. Carry on the ministry of loving God and loving people

 through service. Mark 10:45

 B. Proclaim the message that the kingdom of God is at

 hand. Matthew 4:17

 C. Fulfill the mission of Jesus Christ by making disciples.

 Matthew 28:16-20

3. The Holy Spirit is essential in the life of the church.

 A. The mission of God will not be accomplished by

 human ingenuity or strength.

 B. Jesus promised the disciples two things: power and

 purpose.

 C. The Holy Spirit empowers us to take the gospel to all

 people and causes us to move out of our comfort

 zones.

**Taking it Beyond the Walls:** Allow the resurrection to motivate you to be a witness in your community.

**Connection Group Study Questions**

For the Week of April 23, 2017

Looking back at your notes from this weekend’s message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. You can discern what a person values about Jesus by listening to him/her talk about Him. What should be determining our views about who Jesus is?

2. The book of Acts characterizes Jesus’ mission as moving from the Jews to the Gentiles. Many people resisted the movement outward. Consider your prayer life and focus. Would you say that you have an outward focus? Why or why not? What should be the church’s focus?

3. In some churches the Holy Spirit is not emphasized as being essential to the mission of the church. What is your understanding of the Holy Spirit? How does that align with John 14:15-18, 25-26, John 15:26-27, 16:1-15.

4. The Apostles were commissioned to take the gospel to all nations. Do you think that challenged their understanding of the Gospel?

5. Read Matthew 28:16-20: What was the emphasis of Jesus command to the disciples?

6. Define “witness.” What does this tell you about the work of the apostles?

7. What promise did the two “men in white apparel” make? What does this tell us about Jesus’ second coming?