

## Week 12: New Creation

### Fellowship

- **Eat:** Have a final meal. Ask 2-3 others to help. Frame it as a communion meal and spend time reflecting with gratitude and adoration to God and one another!
- **Check-Ins:** What have you learned about community from this season of house church? What has been a blessing? What helps you connect with others?

### Adoration

- **Prayer:** You could read one of the “evening prayers” from the **Common Prayer** book or App. Give space to ask God for words for the community.
- **Worship:** Ask someone to lead worship or use a speaker with your favorite music App.

### Learning

- **Scripture**
  - **Context:** Teach and remind everyone about how the Gospel accounts end, Jesus is not still on the cross. Like Joshua, Jesus is leading his people, all people, into the eternal covenantal promises of God. In a grand move of recapitulation, he meets some of his followers in a Garden (Mary even mistakes him for the gardener cf. John 20:15) on the first day of the Jewish week. A new creation is afoot and Jesus is revealing who and how humanity was destined to be! After appearing to many of the followers the resurrected Jesus instructs the disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (cf. Acts 1:4-5).
  - **Acts 2:1 - 3:10** The book of Acts (part 2 of Luke) is what Jesus “continued to do” through the power of the Spirit carried in his disciples. As usual, if you think this is too much text prayerfully ask the Lord to highlight the part your group should focus on and you can summarize the rest. For example, you could verbally summarize Acts 2:1-41 and read.
- **Dialogue Questions:**
  - What parallels do you see to the OT in the events that unfold at Pentecost? (fire, languages, temple ideas)
  - You are probably familiar with Matthew’s recording of the “Great Commission” from the end of his Gospel (cf Matt. 28). But what do we learn from Acts 2 about the values and patterns of life disciples are known for?
  - After reading about Peter in chapter 2 and again in chapter 3 answer the following questions: How has he changed since Jesus met him? What markers of discipleship does Peter embody in these stories?
  - What is the primary means by which this New Creation spreads and grows? (*This is a rare moment where we want people to really see the parallels of how OT has been building to this point of God restoring and creating a spiritual family, these little discipleship communities called the church who are day by day learning to live from and in the love of God*)
- **Resource:**
  - Instead of using a resource this week, ask people to share stories of how they have experienced Jesus’ liberating-new-creation through discipleship friendships!
- **Implications:**
  - What aspects of your life have been influenced by the liberating-new-creation power that we see in these chapters?
  - What areas, mindsets, and/or life rhythms need some new creation? How could you open yourself up to that new creation next Spring in the next season of intimate gatherings?