**SERMON SERIES**: LIFE IN RHYTHM **SPEAKER**: SCOTT BECKENHAUER

**DATE:** August 21, 2022

### Sermon title:

"GATHER."

#### Introduction

We began a new series this past week called Life in Rhythm, where we will be discussing the various rhythms that help us live Christ-like lives. Last week we focused on how to be in rhythm with Jesus, we need to be on mission with Jesus. Today we start the first of the five rhythms we'll cover in this series: *gather*. Gathering is the rhythm we do when we come together on Sunday mornings, or when we meet as a church body.

 Do you have any habits of gathering with friends and/or family? Do you have any special traditions that take place during those gatherings? (turkey on thanksgiving, special Christmas pajamas, a favorite board game on game night, etc.)

### **Seek the Word**

Read Acts 1.

- What does verse 8 mean when it calls the audience "witnesses"?
- Why might Jesus have instructed his followers to not leave Jerusalem in verse 4?
- How is the value of gathering displayed in this passage?
- What does this passage teach us about the purpose of the Holy Spirit?

## Go Deeper

We read from Acts 1 this week as part of our discussion. Take some time to find the context behind our passage. When was it written, who was its author, and who was the original audience? Online resources like the Blue Letter Bible app, or resources like a concordance or Bible dictionary may be helpful alongside your Bible.

### Talk About It

- What has your experience been with the rhythm of gathering? From when you were younger until now, has it changed? Has it stayed the same?
- How might your life look different if you began to prioritize at a higher level the rhythm of gathering each week?
- Why do you think God wants His followers gathering together?
- How can we encourage other people to join us in the rhythm of gathering? What barriers prevent us from inviting others?

# Wrap Up

Reminder: We gather weekly to align our hearts to God and our lives to His mission.

Challenge: Take an inventory of how you prioritize the rhythm of gathering. Think through how often you gather with your church family, how important it currently is to you, what makes it hard to do so, and steps to how you can prioritize gathering.