

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Arise: Worship

May 14 & 15, 2022

Not long after Jesus ascended into heaven, a worship movement began to arise among His early disciples. What they experienced can deepen and enrich our worship life together here and now.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: ACTS 2:42-47

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Early Christians believed that Jesus' return was imminent. But as time passed the early Church realized that what mattered was not when Christ would appear to them, but how Christ would appear in them, among them and through them. They were to be his hands, his feet, his face, his smile, his voice...his embodiment on earth.

These early Christians knew that if they were going to faithfully respond to that calling, they needed to be shaped by grace to be formed more and more into the likeness of Christ. And one of the primary habits they engaged in to avail themselves of that grace was **worship**.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Psalm 103, Romans 12:1-2, and Colossians 3:12-17. How do these verses enhance your understanding of worship?
- Share about a time when something you heard in worship equipped you to live differently in the world.
- What do you remember about your First Communion? Share about an especially impactful time you received Communion. How does sharing the Lord's Supper help shape you into the likeness of Christ?
- In what ways is being a Christian in this time and place similar to living in a foreign land? How does fellowship with other Christians help shape you into the likeness of Christ?
- Share prayer requests and spend some time together praying for one another.

APPLICATION: Spend some quiet time reflecting on the four elements of worship highlighted in Acts 2: the teaching of the apostles, the Lord's Supper, fellowship and sharing, and prayer. Consider how you can refocus/recommit to worshipping with greater intentionality in these areas with the goal of responding to God's call to be Christ's embodiment on earth.