

# Lesson Plan: I Am a Witness (Acts 1:8)

## Lesson Overview

**Target Age:** 7 Years Old

**Theme:** Understanding what it means to be a witness for Jesus and how the Holy Spirit helps us share good news from our own homes to the whole world.

**Success Criteria:** By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to define the word "witness," recite the core message of Acts 1:8, and identify four "circles" of people they can share God's love with.

## Materials Needed

- A Bible (NIV or ICB versions are great for 7-year-olds)
- A "Mystery Bag" (any opaque bag) with a small toy or interesting object inside
- Paper and coloring supplies (markers, crayons, or colored pencils)
- Four different sized bowls or lids (to trace circles)
- Optional: A flashlight or a battery-operated candle

## Learning Objectives

- **Define:** Explain that a witness is someone who tells what they have seen and heard.
- **Connect:** Identify that the Holy Spirit gives us the "power" to be brave witnesses.
- **Apply:** Map out "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth" to their own life (Home, Neighborhood, Country, World).

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## 1. Introduction: The Hook (The Mystery Bag)

**Activity:** Place a secret object in a bag. Look inside the bag yourself, but do not show the student. Describe it in great detail (its color, its shape, what it does).

**Discussion:** Ask the student, "Do you know what is in the bag?" (They should say yes, because you told them). Explain: "I am a **witness** to what is in this bag. I saw it with my own eyes, and I told you the truth about it. Now, because you listened to me, you know the truth too!"

**The Big Idea:** A witness is just a reporter! They don't have to make up a story; they just tell what they have seen and heard.

## 2. Body: Content & Practice

### Part A: "I Do" - Exploring the Verse

Read Acts 1:8 together: "*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be*

*my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

### Talking Points (7-year-old friendly):

- **Power:** Jesus didn't want his friends to be scared or do it alone. He promised the Holy Spirit—like a "spiritual superpower"—to help us be brave.
- **Witnesses:** We are witnesses to Jesus' love. We tell people how He helps us and how much He loves them.
- **The Map:** Jesus gave them a map of where to go. It started right where they were and went everywhere!

### Part B: "We Do" - Mapping Our World

Jesus used four locations. Let's translate those to our lives today using the **Circle Map**.

1. Take a piece of paper and trace the largest bowl to make a big circle. Trace the next size inside it, and so on, until you have four circles (like a target).
2. **Jerusalem (The Smallest Circle):** This is home. Write "Family/Friends" here. How can we be witnesses at home? (Being kind, sharing, praying together).
3. **Judea (The Next Circle):** This is our neighborhood or school. Write "Neighbors" here. How can we show God's love to people next door?
4. **Samaria (The Third Circle):** This represents people who might be different from us or people we don't usually hang out with. Write "Others" here. How can we be kind to the "new kid" or someone who is lonely?
5. **Ends of the Earth (The Biggest Circle):** This is the whole world! Write "The World" here. How can we help people far away? (Praying for missionaries, sending cards, or donating to help others).

### Part C: "You Do" - The "Good News" Badge

**Activity:** Have the student design a "Witness Badge." It should have a symbol that reminds them of Jesus (like a heart, a cross, or a sun) and the word "POWER" written on it.

**The Mission:** Ask the student to think of one "Good News" report they can share today. It could be telling a sibling "Jesus loves you," or telling a parent "I'm thankful God made our family."

## 3. Conclusion: Closure & Recap

**Summary:** Being a witness isn't a scary job. It's just sharing the best news ever! We don't do it by ourselves; we have the Holy Spirit's power to help us be brave and kind.

### Check for Understanding (Q&A):

- What is a witness? (Someone who tells what they saw/heard).
- Who gives us the power to talk about Jesus? (The Holy Spirit).
- Where are we supposed to be witnesses? (Everywhere! Home, neighborhoods, and the whole world).

**Closing Prayer/Thought:** "Dear God, thank You for the Holy Spirit. Help me to be a brave witness today and share Your love with my family and my friends. Amen."

## Adaptability & Differentiation

- **For Kinesthetic Learners:** Instead of drawing circles, use hula hoops or blankets on the floor to represent the different locations. Have the student jump from "Jerusalem" to "The Ends of the Earth" while shouting "I will be a witness!"
- **For Advanced Learners:** Look up a map of the ancient world to see where Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria actually were. Discuss why Samaria was a difficult place for the disciples to go (history of conflict).
- **For Younger Siblings:** Use a flashlight in a dark room. Explain that being a witness is like being a light—you just turn it on and show people the way!

## Assessment

- **Formative:** During the "Circle Map" activity, observe if the student can identify people in their own life for each category.
- **Summative:** Ask the student to recite the "Power Verse" (Acts 1:8) in their own words. Example: "The Holy Spirit gives me power to tell everyone about Jesus, from my house to the whole world!"