



Session 2: EMPOWERED
Suggested Week of Use: March 13, 2016
Core Passages: Acts 2:1-15

News Story Summary

On March 1, twelve states held their Presidential primaries. Republican candidates were competing for 595 delegates (1,237 are needed to win the nomination), while Democratic candidates were vying for 865 delegates (2,383 are needed). Each state has slightly different rules for how delegates are chosen and divided. In the state of Alabama, for example, voters not only select their candidate, but they also select the delegates who will in turn be empowered to cast votes for their selected candidate at each party's national convention.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using phrases such as "Super Tuesday;")

Focus Attention

If you are in a state that has had their presidential primary, encourage group members to share their experiences (be careful not to let this become a debate about the candidates themselves; the point of this introduction idea is simply to talk about the process). Share the news story summary above. Ask, *What is the responsibility of a delegate? What are you empowering them to do?* Explain that in states where the delegates are selected by the voters, those delegates are empowered to represent the voters at the Republican or Democratic national conventions.

In today's session, we are going to discover how Jesus empowered His disciples to be His witnesses. In the previous session, we discovered that, in much the same way a delegate to a political convention represents the will of the voters that send him, Jesus told His disciples in Acts 1:8 that they would represent Him all over the world. Acts 2 shows the beginning of the fulfillment of that promise.

Challenge

To close out the session, point out that in some states, voters aren't really voting for the candidate of their choice but for the delegates that will in turn vote for their candidate. Point out that when Jesus empowers us to be His witnesses, we get to be the ones that represent Him directly to our neighbors, coworkers, and family members. We have the awesome privilege of being Christ's witnesses. *Are we making the most of that opportunity?*

Close in prayer, thanking God that He has empowered us to be His witnesses, and asking Him for the courage to be faithful.