

VIRAL

HOW THE GOSPEL SPREAD THEN AND NOW

Pastor Lance Ainsworth
Acts 1:1-11

MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, July 31
Sunday, Aug 3

Introduction

notes

Acts 1:1-11 (ESV)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

John's Baptism: Repentance (Mark 1:8)

Jesus' Baptism: Union with Christ (1 Cor. 12:12-13)

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

One big question: Time, Restoration, Kingdom, Israel.

⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Power for the now while trusting in the not yet. (Kingdom Living)

notes

Committed Follower.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Viral: How the Gospel Spread Then and Now.

GateWay Church of Visalia, Pastor Lance Ainsworth, Acts 1:1-11

July 31st & August 3rd, 2025

Cold Scholar, Warm Admirer, or Committed Follower.

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: Who is your favorite author, and why?

Read Aloud: Acts 1:1-11

1. v.4-5 “ 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” What is the difference between John’s and Jesus’ baptism? When are we baptized in the Holy Spirit? How is Jesus baptism an example for us?

2. v.6-7 “ 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel? 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Do you empathize with the disciple’s question? Did Jesus answer their question? Why do we need power to witness?

3. v. 9-11 “ 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. (*Fulfillment of Daniel 7:13*) 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Why is it essential for the disciples to witness Jesus’ ascension? How is this departure different than Him being buried?