

**ROCKY RIVER CHURCH**  
**JESUS' VISION FOR HIS CHURCH**  
**SERIES: I LOVE MY CHURCH – OCTOBER 26, 2025**  
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**Acts 1:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup>until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. <sup>3</sup>During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. <sup>5</sup>John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>6</sup>So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

<sup>7</sup>He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

<sup>9</sup>After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. <sup>10</sup>As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. <sup>11</sup>“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”

□ **The BIG IDEA:** The vision of the Church is simple yet world-changing: The vision of the church is to continue the mission of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, reaching the world with the Gospel until He returns.

**FOUR CRITICAL THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE VISION OF THE CHURCH:**

**#1. The vision of the Church \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach...” -Acts 1:1*

**#2. The vision of the Church is powered \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.” -Acts 1:8a*

**“Dunamis”** (Greek) for dynamic, explosive power.

*“And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” -Acts 1:8b*

**THIS MEANS:**

- **Jerusalem** → **Our city** — where we live and serve.
- **Judea** → **Our region** — neighboring communities, our county, and our state.
- **Samaria** → **The outsiders** — people that are different from us.
- **Ends of the earth** → **Our world** — global mission.

**#3. The vision of the Church advances through \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere.” -Acts 1:8b*

Here are **two things** to know about our participation:

- 1) Every follower of Jesus plays a role.
- 2) We witness through words and works.

**#4. The vision of the Church anticipates \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Men of Galilee, why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus ... will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!” -Acts 1:11*

**WHAT DO WE DO UNTIL JESUS RETURNS?**

**(1) Stop Staring – Start Serving.**

**(2) Live with Hope and Urgency.**

