

## Walking with Jesus Part 16

### The Promise of the Father “You Shall Receive Power”

#### Acts 1

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for **the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

<sup>6</sup> Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

<sup>7</sup> He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> 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.”

**Days after Jesus’ Resurrection he speaks to his disciples and he tells them they are going to be his witnesses everywhere: From Jerusalem to the ends of the earth...**

#### **What an Awesome Calling...**

This is Life Changing...

The Call of God is a cause that’s Bigger than You...

It’s Monumental and in our human strength and ability is Impossible...

#### **For every Christian there is a Calling...**

To be Holy as He is Holy...

To Love our Enemies...

To Forgive others willingly - As Christ forgave us...

To live Godly lives...

To Love others...

To Serve - Esteeming others as greater than ourselves...

To be a Witness

to our Friends

to our Piers

Neighbors

Family

Haters

Family, Children

To be Like Jesus...

### **Who were these guys that Jesus Called?**

They were:

- Fisherman
- Tax Collectors
- Physicians
- One was a zealot, ready to overthrow the Roman Empire.

### **So who were these guys?**

- They were human
- Some a little self-centered
- 2 sent their mom to ask Jesus for a special seat next to him in Heaven.
- Thomas struggled with doubting Jesus until the very end.
  
- They didn't always get along well.
- They often separated themselves from the group (*Peter said - Jesus, "Even if the rest of these guys disown you, I won't"*)
- They all took off when Jesus was arrested, leaving Him by Himself
- Simon (Peter) rejected Jesus 3 times (even after he gave an oath to never do such a thing).

Under normal standards these guys would have been considered disqualified or at best under-qualified...

These were the guys Jesus chose to shake the world with the Gospel...

The Call of God...

It's from Heaven...

It's from God...

And it is bigger than anything they ever imagined...

What was it Jesus was calling them to do?

**1. You will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

## The Great Commission

### Matthew 28

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and **teaching** them to obey **everything I have commanded you**. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

2. **Go**

3. **Make disciples of all nations**

3. **Baptize**

4. **Teach**

5. **Everything I have commanded you.** - That means they themselves had learned and were practicing what Jesus taught them.

This was a big deal...

It was bigger than anything they could do in their own ability...

Their strength was not strong enough...

Their ability was not good enough...

### John 20

*Jesus says to his Disciples*

21 ...As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

How did the Father send Jesus:

- With Divine Authority
- With Divine Provision
- With Divine Power

## **Luke 24:49**

49 Behold, I send the **Promise of My Father** upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued (*Clothed*) with power from on high.”

## **What is the Promise of the Father?**

### **Acts 1**

4 ...“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for **the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

8 ... **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you**; and you will be my witnesses

— — —

He never called us to do His Will in our own strength...

Just ask Peter...

Ask Thomas...

Ask all the Disciples...

...Oh when the Power of the Holy Spirit is working in you and through you, It's like changing out a pocket knife for a Chain Saw...

### **Psalm 71:18**

Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your **power** to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.