

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>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."



## Sermon Discussion Questions

### Getting Started:

1. What was most challenging, helpful, or troubling in the sermon?

### Digging Deeper:

1. How would Luke respond from Acts 1:1-3 to the following question: “why is Jesus’ resurrection any different than the news of a man landing on the moon?”
2. See John 16:4b-15 and Acts 1:4-5. Why is the Holy Spirit’s company necessary in the disciple’s work? Why wasn’t Jesus’ 40 day teaching sufficient to equip and send them off?
3. “Explain to me how the Holy Spirit works in a believer’s life. How can I identify his presence and power in my life?” See Eph 5:18-20 for help.
4. See Luke 24:48-49, Acts 1:8, Gal 5:16-24 and respond to the following: “How is living by the power of the Holy Spirit different than living under the power of ‘positive thinking?’”
5. See Ezek 36:24-27 and Phil 2:12-15. What is the relationship between the Spirit’s power, one’s will, personal effort and change?
  - a. What does your heart grumble/complain most about? What area of personal sanctification do you feel powerless to change?
6. How does Acts 1:8 bring greater clarity to God’s plan of redemption from the following passages: Jer 16:15; Isa 49:6; Luke 1:69; and Matt 24:43?
  - a. Who is your ‘Judea’, ‘Samaria’ and ‘ends of the earth?’
7. See Acts 1:9-11. How does Phil 3:20 and 1 Thess 1:10 further explain what it means that Jesus will come as he went into heaven?

### Empowered by the Holy Spirit:

8. Pray for the Holy Spirit's power to encourage you in living a missional life and to move your heart towards the lost in your life.
  - a. Pray for people by name- Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth.