



# Jesus Returns to Heaven

*Acts 1:1–11*



## LESSON GOAL

Students will rejoice in God's plan for the spread of the Gospel until Jesus returns.

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Tell how Jesus prepared the apostles for His departure.
- Explain why the apostles were commanded to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit.
- Explain God's plan for the Gospel's geographical spread.
- Describe the ascension of Jesus.

## KEY VERSE

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." —*Acts 1:8*

## APPLICATION

- Be confident that Jesus rose from the dead.
- Depend upon the Holy Spirit's power as you present the Gospel.
- Eagerly wait for Jesus' return.
- Embrace Jesus' command to spread the Gospel.

## NEXT WEEK

The Holy Spirit Arrives  
*Acts 2:1–47*

### Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

# Teacher Planning Sheet

## PREPARE

**Objectives/Truths** to cover this week

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### **Personal Application**

*As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to...*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Three ways students need to apply this passage are...*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials  
Needed:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## POINT

*Choose from various ideas to point them to the coming Bible lesson.*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## PROCLAIM

*Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.*

### **Presentation Ideas**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### **Praise/Music Ideas**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## PRACTICE

*Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

*“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul... you shall teach them to your children.” —Deuteronomy 11:18–19*

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here that will aid you in understanding the Scripture.

### Bible Background

#### Introduction

The book of Acts is God’s record of how the Holy Spirit worked through the apostles to spread the Gospel throughout Jerusalem, Judea, and to the ends of the earth. Luke, the traveling companion of Paul, wrote the book of Acts most likely while Paul was awaiting trial before Caesar during his first Roman imprisonment (A.D. 60-62). The book of Acts is Luke’s second historical record addressed to Theophilus, about whom almost nothing is known. (Luke describes Theophilus as “most excellent” in Luke 1:3, suggesting he may have been a government official.) In the beginning of Acts, Luke refers to the first volume of his history, known as the Gospel of Luke, as the “former account I made...of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up” (Acts 1:1–2). The book of Acts begins with the presentation of Jesus’ instruction to the apostles and His ascension into heaven found in Luke’s Gospel. The first eleven verses of Acts present God’s plan for the spread of the Gospel through the Spirit’s power. The rest of the book of Acts records the Gospel’s progress.

#### Jesus’ Preparation of the Apostles

After reviewing the content of his Gospel, Luke summarizes how Jesus spent the time between His resurrection and His ascension preparing the apostles for their ministry. Luke specifically refers to the apostles as those “whom He had chosen” (1:2). The apostles were God’s chosen instruments to advance His glory through the proclamation of the Gospel. Jesus prepared His Gospel ministers for 40 days by giving them commandments, convincing them of His resurrection with “many infallible proofs,” and “speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God” (1:2–3). In the subsequent years when the apostles suffered much for proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus, they must have been encouraged when they remembered these forty days with Jesus. They were suffering because they faithfully obeyed the last commands of their living Lord.

#### Jesus’ Promise of the Spirit

In Acts 1:4–8, Luke gives a specific instance of how Jesus prepared His disciples. In verse 4, Jesus gave a convincing proof of His resurrection. Although the New King James Version says that Jesus was “assembled together with them,” a better translation is that Jesus was “eating with them.” The fact that Jesus ate with His disciples (as He did in Luke 24:30, 42–43) emphasizes that Jesus had a resurrected body.

While Jesus ate with His disciples, He gave them precise instructions. He commanded them “not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4). The command suggests that previously the disciples had been

going to and from Jerusalem, but now the disciples were to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit.

The promise of the Spirit is a prominent theme in Scripture. The Jews knew that the New Covenant would be accompanied by an outpouring of the Spirit (Ezek. 36:25–27). The Spirit would cause a change in Israel's heart so that she would be obedient to God's commands. A prominent part of John's testimony was that the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:16; Mark 1:8; Matt. 3:11; John 1:33). Both John and Jesus (Acts 1:5) contrasted John's external water baptism, which could not change man's heart, with Jesus' future Spirit baptism. Before His death, Jesus promised His disciples that they would receive the Holy Spirit (John 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7). Although the disciples had already tasted of the Spirit's work in their lives, both in salvation and sanctification, they had not received the permanent indwelling and empowering of the Spirit which followed after Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension.

The book of Acts records how the baptism of the Spirit spread first to the apostles and those in the Upper Room (Acts 2), then to the Samaritans (Acts 8:17), to the Gentiles (Acts 10:44), and finally to the dispersed believing Jews who had not yet heard of Christ (Acts 19:6). These specific occurrences of the outpouring of the Spirit are important because they mark the visible spread of the New Covenant. Apart from these special Spirit baptisms in Acts, all believers, whether during the time of Acts or today, are baptized by the Spirit when they receive the Gospel (1 Cor. 12:13).

Not only did Jesus give the disciples proofs of His resurrection and instructions to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit, He also spoke to them about the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God was a dominant theme throughout Jesus' ministry. The kingdom of God refers to the sphere of salvation of those who are submitted to Jesus as King. Although the kingdom of God had been inaugurated with the appearance of Jesus, the disciples still longed for the day when Jesus would "restore the kingdom to Israel" (Acts 1:6) and reign on earth. When the disciples had "come together" (1:6) with Jesus on the Mount of Olives (see 1:12), they asked Jesus, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" (1:6). Jesus did not correct the disciples for thinking that He would rule as Israel's king, but instead addressed their questions about when it would happen. Instead of giving them a date, Jesus told the disciples, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority" (1:7).

Although Jesus did not reveal the time of His earthly reign, He did emphasize what the disciples were to do in His absence. Jesus told the disciples, "You shall receive power" when the Spirit comes and "You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (1:8). Through reliance upon the Holy Spirit, the apostles were to commit themselves to testifying to Jesus' death and resurrection. The apostles' testimony would begin in Jerusalem where they received the Spirit, spread throughout Judea and neighboring Samaria, and advance until it reached the ends of the earth. The ministry of advancing the Gospel has been passed on to today's saints, who still eagerly await Christ's return and reign.

### **Jesus' Ascension to Heaven**

After Jesus "had spoken these things" (Acts 1:9), the apostles saw Jesus ascend into heaven. The apostles watched intently while Jesus was enveloped in a cloud (perhaps the glory of God). Even after Jesus was hidden from their sight, they "looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up" (1:10). The disciples stood there staring into heaven until two angels interrupted their gaze. The angels admonished

the men for staring up into heaven and promised that Jesus would come back in the same way He had left. Other scriptures also promise that Jesus will return in the clouds (Dan. 7:13; Matt. 24:30; 26:64). Following the ascension, the disciples “worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy” (Luke 24:52), where they went to the upper room and prayed (Acts 1:12–14).

### Conclusion

When Jesus ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father, the apostles had already been instructed for their future ministry. After receiving the promised Spirit, the apostles were to spend their lives proclaiming the testimony of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, not only in Jerusalem but ultimately to the ends of the earth. The rest of Acts records the apostles’ faithful obedience to Jesus’ instructions. The church today follows those same last words of Christ. While true believers eagerly await the return of their Savior in the clouds, they continue to devote themselves to being witnesses to Him to the ends of the earth.

## POINT TO THE TRUTH

*“Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.”  
—Psalm 78:1*

This section includes questions to review last week’s lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week’s lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



### Difficult Concepts

**Witnesses:** Witnesses are those who see something and tells others about it. As His disciples, the apostles had spent several years with Christ observing His miracles and listening to His teachings. That they were to be witnesses to Christ meant that they were to tell the truth about Him to the world.

**Ascension:** When the apostle Luke writes of Christ’s ascension, he is describing Christ’s literal leaving this world for the realm of heaven. There Christ would take His place on the throne at God’s right hand. That the Lord ascended from this earth denotes the fact that he was raised (or lifted) upward from this earth into heaven. That the disciples had witnessed this ascension would have been great motivation for their upcoming task of sharing the gospel.

**Gospel:** That the disciples were to be witnesses unto Christ essentially means that they were to tell others about His death and resurrection. This sharing of both the person and work of Christ is the literal sharing of the Gospel. That Christ lived on this earth, died on a cross, and was resurrected is the good news of the gospel. Christ’s shed blood now offers the forgiveness and remission of sin for all those who would believe and be obedient to the truth of the gospel.

**The coming of Holy Spirit upon the apostles:** The apostles were to be given the Holy Spirit for the foremost purpose of sharing the gospel. God alone has the power to convict of us of sin, grant us understanding of the things of Christ, and give us a new heart that is obedient to His commands. Since the apostles did not possess such power in and of themselves, they were in need of the power of God’s Spirit to share the gospel.



### Spreading Game

Put objects in the center of the room (such as bean bags or tissue paper). Tell children to spread the objects all over the room. When the floor is covered, tell them that in today's lesson, Jesus tells His disciples to "spread" the gospel, the good news about salvation, to the whole world. Finally, direct the children to collect all the objects and bring them back to the center.



### Stop and Wait!

Students may have a problem understanding that the apostles had to wait in Jerusalem for the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. The apostles could not begin sharing the gospel until after they had received the Holy Spirit. To illustrate this, have the students play a relay game. The relay game should entail several activities (i.e., tying all their shoes together, carrying a person in a blanket from one location to another, rolling a balloon across the room using no hands, etc.). Throughout the relay, each team will not be allowed to continue on in the race until each activity is fully completed. That the students have to wait at each activity until moving on will illustrate the similar way the apostles had to wait before sharing the gospel.



### Sharing the Gospel

After His death and resurrection, much of the world had still not even heard of the person and work of Jesus Christ. What was needed was for those who had lived and experienced Christ to go out and share Him with the entire world. To illustrate this to the students, develop a mural of an unfolded globe and post it on the wall of the classroom. This map/mural of the world should only entail the outline of its various continents, leaving the inside of the continents blank for the students to color in. Divide the class into seven groups, assigning each group with a particular continent on the map. Each group will be responsible for their own continent. Then the various groups are to go up and trace in as many people as they can inside their assigned continents. Once the groups are finished with the continents, use the mural before or during the lesson to illustrate the need of sharing the gospel around the world. Illustrate to the students what would have happened if the apostles had not been obedient to Christ's command to share the gospel. Whole continents, filled with millions of people, would have never heard about Christ. Remind them of their responsibility of sharing the gospel, reminding them that the consequence of not being obedient to Christ is that others will not have the opportunity to hear about the salvation that He offers.



### The Tool to Do the Job

In today's lesson the apostles could not carry out the Lord's instruction of sharing the gospel until given the proper tools to do so. To illustrate this to the students instruct them to begin building a tower with blocks, but fail to give them the blocks to build it with. Or, instruct them to paint a picture, while failing to give them the paint and canvas to complete the painting. The students will naturally become confused as to how they are to complete a project without having the proper tools necessary. When this occurs, explain to them that in the same way the apostles were not able to begin sharing the gospel without the Holy Spirit. The Lord told them to wait in Jerusalem because they did not yet have what was necessary to begin sharing the gospel—the Holy Spirit. At this point have the students wait several minutes before giving them the proper tools necessary to complete the project.

# PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

*“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.” —Psalm 78:4*

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use alongside the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done right from the Bible.

## Bible Lesson

### Passage Outline

Jesus’ Preparation of the Apostles (Acts 1:1–3)

Jesus’ Promise of the Spirit (Acts 1:4–8)

Jesus’ Ascension to Heaven (Acts 1:9–11)

### Reading of the Text

Read Acts 1:1–11.

### Introduction

Have you ever had some news that you wanted to tell the whole world? To you this information was so incredible that you thought everyone should know about it. Well the apostles in today’s lesson were given a message like this. These men were chosen by God to tell the world about His Son, Jesus Christ. Now that Jesus had been crucified and resurrected, He again revisits His disciples. He tells them what they are to do before sharing the gospel. The first verses of Acts present God’s plan for the spread of the Gospel through the Spirit’s power. To see God’s plan for the spreading of the gospel, let us now look at Jesus’ preparation of the apostles recorded by Luke in Acts 1:1-11.



### Lead-off Questions (LOQs)

**LOQ:** In the beginning of today’s lesson, who do we find visiting the disciples?

**Answer:** Luke begins the book of Acts telling us that Jesus visited His disciples. Luke’s first book wrote of Christ’s life here on earth from His birth, His teachings, His miracles, to His death and resurrection from the grave. Luke begins the book of Acts following these events of Christ’s last few days before His ascension into heaven. Christ would not come unto the earth again until His second coming in the last days.

**LOQ:** Why does Jesus spend 40 days with His disciples before His ascension into heaven?

**Answer:** The apostles had been chosen by God to share the news of His Son Jesus Christ with the world. Jesus now spends 40 days with His disciples to prepare them for such an important task. This preparation involved giving them specific commandments/instructions, convincing them of His resurrection by doing many miracles in their midst, and teaching about the kingdom of God.

**LOQ:** What instructions does Jesus give His disciples before ascending into heaven?

**Answer:** While eating with the disciples, Jesus gives them specific instructions not “to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Holy Spirit” (1:4). Before His death, Jesus had promised His disciples that they would receive the Holy Spirit following His death, resurrection, and ascension. Up until this point, the disciples had not yet received the permanent indwelling and empowering of the Spirit of God.

**LOQ:** Why were the apostles commanded to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit?

**Answer:** The apostles were given a very important task. They were to share the gospel with all men. In order to do this task, the disciples would need the power of God. God alone has the power to convict us of our sin, grant us understanding as to the things of Christ, and give us a new heart that is obedient to God’s commands. Since the apostles did not possess such power in and of themselves, they were in need of the power of God’s Spirit to share the gospel. Christ, knowing this, commanded His disciples to wait for the giving of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem.

**LOQ:** What did the disciples want to know about the kingdom of God that Jesus had not yet told them?

**Answer:** When the disciples had come together with Jesus at the Mount of Olives, they asked Jesus, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (1:6). Although the kingdom of God had begun with the appearance of Jesus, the Jews still longed for the day when Jesus would restore the kingdom to Israel and reign on earth. The disciples wanted to know when this was going to take place.

**LOQ:** What was Jesus’ response to the disciples’ question about the kingdom?

**Answer:** Instead of correcting the disciples thinking that He would rule as Israel’s king, Jesus addressed their question about when it would happen. Here Jesus does not give them a date, but tells them that “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has put in His own authority” (1:7). When Christ would return and establish the kingdom to Israel was not to be the concern of the Jewish people. This return and establishment was only for God to know.

**LOQ:** What was to be the concern of the disciples as they waited for Christ’s return?

**Answer:** Although Jesus did not reveal the time of His earthly reign, He did emphasize what the disciples were to be doing while He was away. Once they had received the power of the Holy Spirit that had been promised to them, the disciples were then to be witnesses of Christ unto all the world. Through reliance upon the Holy Spirit, the apostles were to commit themselves to telling others about Jesus’ death and resurrection.

**LOQ:** What was God’s plan for the gospel to spread unto all the world?

**Answer:** God had planned for the apostles to begin spreading the gospel at the very place where they were to be given the Spirit, Jerusalem. From Jerusalem the gospel was to spread throughout the neighboring countries of Judea and Samaria; where it would then continue to advance until it reached the ends of



the earth. Starting at one location, the gospel was to then spread outward unto other countries until it finally reached all of the earth.

**LOQ:** What happened after Jesus had spoken these things to His disciples?

**Answer:** After Jesus had spoken these things, the apostles saw Him ascend into heaven. Luke records that as Jesus was lifted up into heaven, a cloud suddenly surrounded Him so that the disciples could no longer see Him. The disciples' only reaction was one of amazement; all they could do was to stand there staring into heaven.

**LOQ:** Who do we find interrupting the disciples as they are staring into heaven?

**Answer:** As the disciples stood there staring up to where Jesus had risen into the sky, two angels interrupted their gaze. These angels went on to ask the men why they were staring into heaven and then promised that Jesus would return in the clouds in the same way He had left. The disciples would have been comforted with the promise that Jesus would return, meanwhile they were to be obedient to Christ's command to share the gospel across the entire earth.

### Summary

After His death and then resurrection, Christ spends a total of 40 days with His disciples. These men were to be known as Christ's apostles; chosen men of God who were to share with the world the good news about Christ's death and resurrection. Before Jesus would ascend into heaven though, He would first prepare the apostles for this very important task of sharing the gospel. These 40 days with the disciples are a part of God's preparation of the apostles. During this time Christ commands them to stay in Jerusalem until they have received the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit had already been promised to the disciples earlier and was an important part of God's plan for the spread of the gospel. Christ even instructs them that once they receive the Holy Spirit that they were to then be His witnesses unto all the earth. Because of the Holy Spirit's power, the apostles were going to be able share the gospel with all of Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and even unto all the earth. After Christ had prepared His apostles for the gospel ministry, they then watched their Lord rise from the earth and ascend into heaven. As they stared into the cloud to which Christ had disappeared, two men in white robes who were angels of the Lord interrupted them. These angels comforted the apostles by promising them that Christ would return in the same way He had gone into Heaven. Until His return, the apostles were to be obedient to Christ's message, sharing the gospel with all men.

### Application

That Christ died and was resurrected is wonderful news. Those of us who believe in His death and resurrection have the same responsibility as that of the apostles. We too are commanded to share the gospel with the world. Every person is to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. As we remain thankful for our Lord and Savior, we too should be faithful to share Him with others. Like the apostles, part of this sharing of the gospel is to depend upon the Holy Spirit to which God has given. Because God's power has been given to us through His Spirit we like the apostles, are able to share with our friends and neighbors the good news of Christ. While we eagerly await His return, let us all be obedient to God's command to share the gospel with all men.



## Presentation Ideas

### A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards®

Use appropriate A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards® with the lesson.



### Betty Lukens Flannel Graph

Use appropriate flannel graph pieces with the lesson.

### The Apostle's Testimony

To explain what is to be witness, have a guest come to your class dressed in biblical clothing. This guest will pretend he is an apostle, and has witnessed the Lord Jesus Christ. In dialoguing with the class, this imaginary apostle will begin to ask the students if they want to hear about the person he knows as Jesus Christ. At this point the apostle will begin witnessing as to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. This will provide a great opportunity for the gospel to be presented to the students.



### Jesus' Ministry Review

Read Acts 1:1, then discuss what miracles Jesus had done in previous Matthew lessons (use old coloring sheets as reminders), and lessons, commands, and instructions Jesus had taught in previous Matthew lessons. Read verse 2, then discuss what it means to "transition." Jesus is training them to transition, or change, from Jesus's ministry on earth, to the beginning of the apostles' ministry. As you continue with the lesson, encourage children to listen for the work of the Holy Spirit, and listen for the orders Jesus gives to the apostles.



### Transition

Transition means to change. In a similar way to how Jesus transferred the responsibility of earthly ministry from Himself to His apostles, there are examples of transition from the children's own lives. Ask the children to think of tasks that their parents used to do for them as babies, that their parents trained them how to do, that they now do the tasks. Some examples might be feeding themselves, getting dressed, putting on shoes or tying shoes, and brushing teeth. In a similar way, Jesus had a ministry on earth, He taught His disciples the truth, then He gave them the ministry to continue. And one more thing, Jesus gave them the power to do the work, the Holy Spirit!



### Preparation Demonstration

Talk to the children about baking a cake (or muffins or cookies). If possible, bring in the ingredients and a toaster oven (keep hidden until later in demonstration). Talk to the children about following the recipe. Talk about where the recipe came from (relative, cook book) and how you must follow the directions for it to turn out the way you want it. In the same way, Jesus gave the disciples instructions how to spread the gospel, the good news about salvation, to the whole world. To continue, ask children if recipe is complete—no! It needs to be baked, and in order for it to be baked you need power—electricity from the toaster oven. In the same way, Jesus gave the disciples the power to do the work, the Holy Spirit.



### Review Acrostic

Write the following acrostic on the board or overhead projector transparency, and have students take notes on the blank worksheet to review the major points in the

passage. Give a challenge for students to memorize the acrostic by next week's lesson.

### **Jesus Prepared the Apostles for His:**

Appeared to apostles for 40 days (1:3)

Spoke of the Kingdom of God (1:3)

Commanded apostles not to depart from Jerusalem (1:4)

Expect the coming of the Holy Spirit (1:4)

Not the same as water baptism (1:5)

Second coming will be similar (1:11)

It is not revealed to us the exact time of Christ's return (1:7)

Ordered disciples to be witnesses of Christ in all the Earth (1:8)

No restoration of the kingdom of Israel at this time (1:6)

## **Praise and Worship**

*Praise Him, Praise Him*

*Trust and Obey*

*Seek Ye First*

*There Is a Redeemer*

## **PRACTICE THE TRUTH**

*"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments." —Psalm 78:7*

Choose ideas from this section that review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



### **"Spreading the Good News"**

Materials: copies of "Spreading the Good News" craft page, glitter paint, paintbrush

Directions: Give each student a copy of the craft page. Squirt some glitter paint on the map near where Jerusalem would be. Tell the students to spread the paint with the paintbrush all over the map. Talk about Jesus' command to spread the Gospel.



### **"God's Plan to Spread the Gospel"**

Materials: copies of "God's Plan to Spread the Gospel" craft page, scissors, glue, crayons

Directions: Give each child a copy of the craft page and instruct him or her to color in the pictures at the bottom. Have the students cut out the pictures and then glue them in the correct order.



### **"Jesus returns to Heaven"**

Use this worksheet to reinforce the key truths of today's lesson. It is located at the back of this lesson.



2  
3

### **Small Group Activity: “Witness for Christ”**

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. He or she can complete the page individually, in a small group, or at home.

### **Coloring Pages**

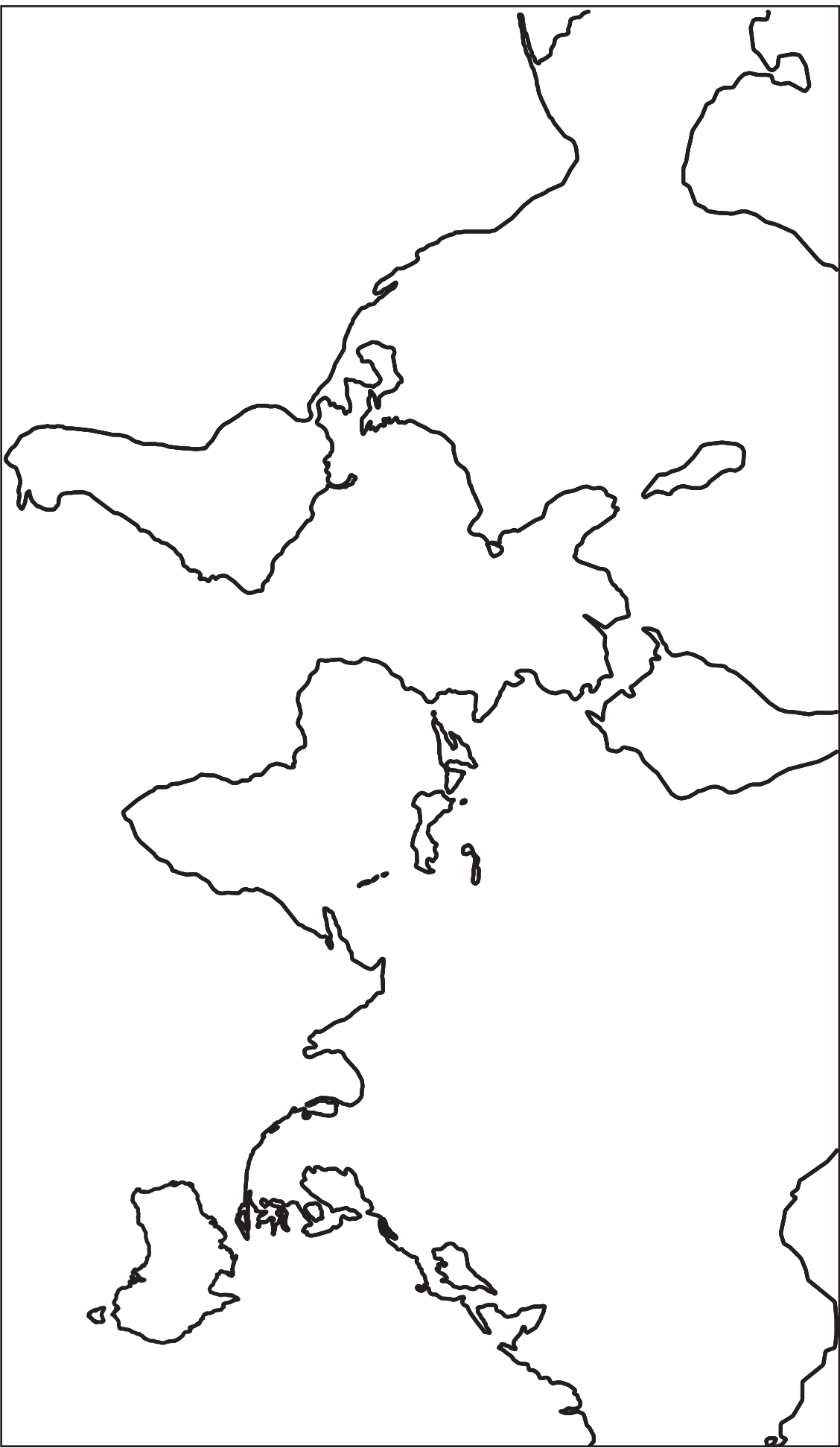
Give each student a copy of the coloring pages from the back of the lesson. He or she can color the pages in class or take them home to color.



### **MEMORY VERSE**

“...you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” —*Acts 1:8b*

# Spreading the Good News



***“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” —Acts 1:8***



# God's Plan to Spread the Gospel

Cut out the pictures below and glue them in the order of the biblical account.

--	--	--	--	--

Jesus died on the cross.  
—Matthew 27:45-50

Jesus was raised from  
the dead.  
—Matthew 28:1-7

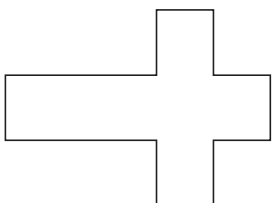
"...to whom He also  
presented Himself alive  
after His suffering by many  
infallible proofs, being seen  
by them during forty days  
and speaking of the things  
pertaining to the  
kingdom of God."  
—Acts 1:3

"But you shall receive power  
when the Holy Spirit has  
come upon you; and you  
shall be witnessed to Me in  
Jerusalem, and in all Judea  
and Samaria, and to the end  
of the earth."  
—Acts 1:8

"Now when He had spoken  
these things, while they  
watched, He was taken up,  
and a cloud received Him  
out of their sight."  
—Acts 1:9



40







# Jesus returns to Heaven



Acts 1:1-11

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. How many days did Jesus spend with the disciples before His ascension? \_\_\_\_\_  
a. 30      b. 35      c. 40      d. 45
2. Jesus commanded the disciples to not depart from Jerusalem until they had received the \_\_\_\_\_ (1:4).
3. What was the "Promise of the Father"? \_\_\_\_\_
4. In Acts 1:8 Jesus commanded the disciples to be witnesses of Him in \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and to the end of the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Jesus ascended to heaven in a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Who appeared to the disciples as Jesus ascended into heaven?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. True or False: The angels promised that Jesus would come again. \_\_\_\_\_



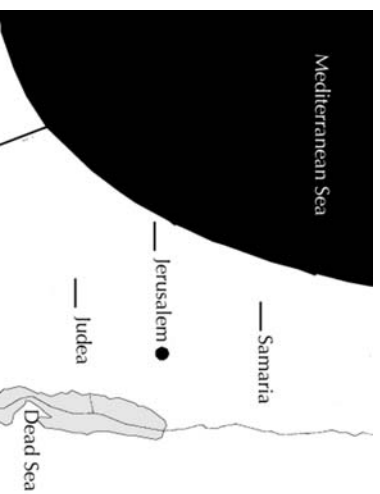
## Witness for Christ

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” —Acts 1:8

Has something really great and amazing ever happen to you? Were you able to keep quiet about it, or did you run with excitement to tell your best friend? What if you had been told to keep quiet about it, would you have been able to?

In today’s Bible lesson, when the disciples received some amazing news—Christ is alive, He has risen!—Christ told them to go to Jerusalem and wait. Imagine how hard it must have been to hide such good news! Do you know why Christ told them to wait? He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit, who would give them power. After the Holy Spirit came, they were powerful witnesses for Him in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria.

On the map below, mark the order of the disciples witnessing by putting the correct number (1, 2, 3) next to each spot mentioned in today’s Bible verse.



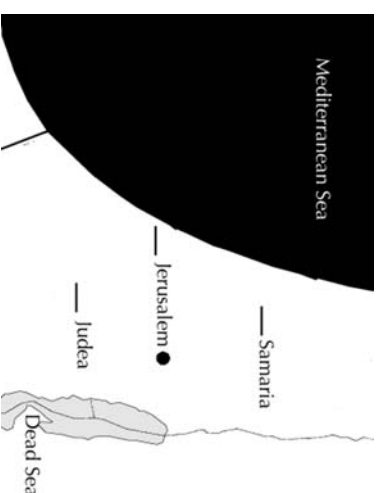
## Witness for Christ

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” —Acts 1:8

Has something really great and amazing ever happen to you? Were you able to keep quiet about it, or did you run with excitement to tell your best friend? What if you had been told to keep quiet about it, would you have been able to?

In today’s Bible lesson, when the disciples received some amazing news—Christ is alive, He has risen!—Christ told them to go to Jerusalem and wait. Imagine how hard it must have been to hide such good news! Do you know why Christ told them to wait? He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit, who would give them power. After the Holy Spirit came, they were powerful witnesses for Him in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria.

On the map below, mark the order of the disciples witnessing by putting the correct number (1, 2, 3) next to each spot mentioned in today’s Bible verse.



1.20/Acts EL Before Christ ascended into heaven, He told His disciples to go into all the world and be witnesses for Him (Matt 28:18-20). If you have received Christ as your Savior, you, too, can be a witness for Him, but you do not have to wait for the Holy Spirit to give you power as the disciples did. When you received Christ as your Savior, the Holy Spirit came to live in you and gave you the power to be a witness for Christ. So don't hold it in—run and tell your best friend!

This week, I will tell \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ has risen from the dead and has paid the price for his or her sins.

His or her response was:

---

---

I will also tell \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ has risen from the dead and has paid the price for his or her sins.

His or her response was:

---

---

**PRAYER**

Thank Christ for the Holy Spirit and for the courage He gives you to tell others about salvation.

Before Christ ascended into heaven, He told His disciples to go into all the world and be witnesses for Him (Matt 28:18-20). If you have received Christ as your Savior, you, too, can be a witness for Him, but you do not have to wait for the Holy Spirit to give you power as the disciples did. When you received Christ as your Savior, the Holy Spirit came to live in you and gave you the power to be a witness for Christ. So don't hold it in—run and tell your best friend!

This week, I will tell \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ has risen from the dead and has paid the price for his or her sins.

His or her response was:

---

---

I will also tell \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ has risen from the dead and has paid the price for his or her sins.

His or her response was:

---

---

**PRAYER**

Thank Christ for the Holy Spirit and for the courage He gives you to tell others about salvation.



**“...He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.” –Acts 1:3**





**“And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’” —Acts 1:9–10**

