

2 Who Is the Holy Spirit? Devotion

Acts 1:1–9

S Scripture. *What stands out to you as you read this passage?*

The Book of Acts picks up after the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life and teachings. This passage recaps the end of Jesus' earthly ministry as He gives final instructions to His followers before He ascends into heaven. The writer, Luke, explains that this is a continuation of his first book.

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 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. 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. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 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."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

O Observation. *What did you observe about what you read?*

A Application. *How should your life be different because of what you read?*

P Prayer. *Write a prayer inviting God to help you apply what you are learning.*

Dear God,
