

Acts 1:1-11 “Supernatural Help!” OGCF Feb. 7, 2021

#1) Acts traces the expansion of Christianity across the Mediterranean rim - from *the Jewish capitol of Jerusalem* to *the Gentile capitol of Rome*. It explains how the Jewish Messiah became _____ of the Gentiles.

#2) In his Gospel, Luke had written of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus, but that was only the beginning! The _____ is the continuation of the Gospel story of the “Living Lord”. (John 20:25-29)

#3) My prayer is that, like Thomas, we would grasp the fact that, even though we may not see Him or be able to physically reach out and touch his wounds for ourselves, ... Jesus is alive and truly is _____ this day!

#4) The disciples didn’t gaze at Jesus with wispy, dreamy looks. No, they carefully _____ Him!

The Bible teaches that there are **THREE** relationships that a person can have with God the Holy Spirit!

#5) He is _____ people to convict them of their need to be forgiven and born again; (John 16:7-11)

#6) He comes _____ a person the moment they receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord; (Eph 1:13; 1 Cor 6:19; Eph 5:17-18; 2 Cor 3:18)

#7) Finally, He comes _____ His disciples to empower them for ministry! (Acts 1:5, 8; John 7:37-39)

#8) Verse 8 becomes an outline for the book of Acts...

*Ch 1-7 will describe the Church's outreach into _____ .
In *Ch 8-9 the Gospel goes to _____ and _____ .
Then in *Ch 10-28 we see it going to *the* _____ .

#9) *to fulfill such a grand commission, the disciples will need _____ help...!*

“...Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. ... this He spoke concerning the Spirit ...” (John 7:37-39)

Acts 1:1-11 “Supernatural Help!” OGCF Feb. 7, 2021

#1) Acts traces the expansion of Christianity across the Mediterranean rim - from *the Jewish capitol of Jerusalem* to *the Gentile capitol of Rome*. It explains how the Jewish Messiah became Lord of the Gentiles.

#2) In his Gospel, Luke had written of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus, but that was only the beginning! The Book of Acts is the continuation of the Gospel story of the “Living Lord”. (John 20:25-29)

#3) My prayer is that, like Thomas, we would grasp the fact that, even though we may not see Him or be able to physically reach out and touch his wounds for ourselves, ... Jesus is alive and truly is with us this day!

#4) The disciples didn’t gaze at Jesus with wispy, dreamy looks. No, they carefully scrutinized Him!

The Bible teaches that there are **THREE** relationships that a person can have with God the Holy Spirit!

#5) He is with people to convict them of their need to be forgiven and born again; (John 16:7-11)

#6) He comes in a person the moment they receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord; (Eph 1:13; 1 Cor 6:19; Eph 5:17-18; 2 Cor 3:18)

#7) Finally, He comes upon His disciples to empower them for ministry! (Acts 1:5, 8; John 7:37-39)

#8) Verse 8 becomes an outline for the book of Acts...

*Ch 1-7 will describe the Church's outreach into Jerusalem .
In *Ch 8-9 the Gospel goes to Judea and Samaria .
Then in *Ch 10-28 we see it going to *the* ends of the earth .

#9) *to fulfill such a grand commission, the disciples will need supernatural help...!*

“...Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. ... this He spoke concerning the Spirit ...” (John 7:37-39)

Life Group Homework
For the week of February 7, 2021

- 8) Is there one of these verses you need to be more aware of than others when it comes to understanding the Holy Spirit's work/guidance in your life?

TAKING IT HOME

- 9) Is there anything specific you sense the Holy Spirit wanting you to grow in, guide you toward or people you hope to reach? If so, explain.
- 10) **For your personal study time** - The Bible shows three different ways the Holy Spirit relates to us (with, in, upon). The *upon* relationship is what Jesus spoke of in Acts 1:8, where the disciples would be empowered to be His witnesses. Read the following verse, and then take some time to ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit (whether for the first time, or once again) so that you are empowered to be a witness for Jesus.

Luke 11:13 - *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) If we had a glimpse into a typical Saturday during your childhood, you would most likely be found...
...playing outside
...reading a book
...doing chores
...terrorizing others
...(Other) _____
- 2) We have all had different experiences and influences that affect our view of how God's Spirit works. As you look back in years past, how would you describe your understanding of the Holy Spirit? Has it changed over time? If so, explain.
- 3) Can you think of a place or situation where you typically seem most tuned-in to God's Spirit guiding, speaking or encouraging you? (Examples: time alone, listening to a sermon, personal study, talking or processing with others, etc.)

REVIEW

- 4) Looking back at your notes, what stood out to you from this week's message?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 5) This week we read how Jesus told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon them, which would empower them to be His witnesses. Why do you think it is significant that God not only commands us to be His witnesses, but He also empowers us to do so?
- 6) After Israel was held captive in Babylon, a remnant had returned to Jerusalem to fulfill God's command to rebuild the temple and city. However, after much opposition and setback, the work seemed impossible. Then, God gave this message to His people:

Zechariah 4:6 - *"So he answered and said to me: 'This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts."*

What do you think God was saying to His people?

- 7) God gave us the Holy Spirit to help and empower us as Christians. As you read the passages below, **how do they help you understand and remind you of how the Holy Spirit works in your life?**

John 16:12-15 - *"[12] 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. [13] 'However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. [14] 'He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you."*

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 - *"[4] There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. [5] There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. [6] And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. [7] But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: [8] for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, [9] to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, [10] to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. [11] But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."*

John 15:26 - *"'But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."*

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - *"[17] Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. [18] But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."*

Acts 9:31 - *"Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied."*