



# encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

## **disciple:**

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

**01** Print the PDF.

-or-

**02** Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.

-or-

**03** Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

### **5 Marks of a Disciple**

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



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Week of January 15<sup>st</sup> // Conversation January 21<sup>th</sup>  
**The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

## pray.

Father, help me to put aside all distractions and focus on what You want me to learn from your Scripture.

## observe.

Marking key words in passages of Scripture helps to draw your attention to the main ideas/themes. It causes you to slow down and absorb what you're reading.

- 01** Mark any reference to the word Jesus or Son of Man with a cross 
- 02** Mark all references to God the Father with a triangle 
- 03** Mark all references to the Holy Spirit or Advocate with a circle 
- 04** Underline the verses that Jesus spoke to his disciples (v.4 & v.7-8)

## **Acts 1:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach<sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. <sup>3</sup> During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup> Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. <sup>5</sup> John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

### *The Ascension of Jesus*

<sup>6</sup> So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

<sup>7</sup> He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me

everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

<sup>9</sup> After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. <sup>10</sup> As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. <sup>11</sup> “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”

#### **John 14:16**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.

#### **John 15:26**

But I will send you the Advocate — the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.

# interpret.

**01** Who is the writer of this book of Acts? If you are unsure, consult a study Bible or look online. From what you have read, what was the reason he was writing this book? Who is he writing it to (v. 1)?

**02** This book takes place after Jesus died and was resurrected. List some of the things that Jesus did during the 40 days with his disciples (eat, gave instructions - see v. 3). Do you know of any other Biblical references to the number 40?

**03** In verse 4, Jesus tells the disciples not to leave Jerusalem until the Father sends what? What did the Father give to his disciples to “help” them (see v. 8)? What did Jesus tell his disciples that they should do in this verse as well?

# apply.

**01** Why do you think it was important that Jesus visit his disciples after he was raised from the dead (see v. 3)? How great is your faith that you believe without seeing!

**02** Why was the Holy Spirit important for the disciples to receive? Does that still apply to us today? Look up the role of the Holy Spirit/Advocate and see two of the references in John 14:16 and John 15:26.

# bring it together.

The Book of Acts (or Acts of the Apostles) was written by Luke as a continuation of his gospel account. Blessed with his eyewitness accounts of Jesus and his ministry in his first book, we are doubly blessed to have his account of the early church and the disciples (apostles) in his second.

We learn early on that Jesus appeared to his followers and others. During this time, He kept teaching his disciples and preparing them for what was next. We learn that he spoke these things only through the Holy Spirit which comes from the Father.

Our need for the Holy Spirit now is just as great as it was for the disciples. It is important to note that the Son had to go to the Father in heaven in order for the Holy Spirit to be received. As Christians, we must believe and accept the Father's Son - his birth, death, and resurrection, in order to be given the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Ask the Holy Spirit to intercede on our behalf as we begin the journey together in the Book of Acts!

## connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.



[info@gtwy.church](mailto:info@gtwy.church)

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.



[www.gtwy.church/groups](http://www.gtwy.church/groups)

[we value your input. click or scan here to provide feedback](#)

