

## Acts 1:1-8 | September 8th

*1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 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. 4 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. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 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."*

### Introduction

Q: How are you "on the move" this fall? What in life is keeping you busy?

Q: Who is someone that has inspired or challenged you because they seem to be moving in the right direction? How did they live and how did that impact you?

### Section 1: Kingdom of God

Q: Pastor Keith talked about how Acts is a "continuation of what Jesus came to do and teach." And this can be summarized in three words, "Kingdom of God." What does "Kingdom of God" mean to you?

*Read Luke 4:16-19 - He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:*

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

Q: This is Jesus' description of the kingdom of God. What are some specifics about it? What would this "Kingdom of God" look like in the spheres in your life where "on the move?"

## Where is this Kingdom?

*Read Acts 1:6 - Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"*

Q: What drove the disciples to ask this question? What do you think they were longing for?

Q: They may have asked, "When is the life of heaven going to finally and completely replace the brokenness we see and experience?" Have you ever asked God a question like that before? Have you ever wondered why God does not restore the brokenness you see and feel? If so, what's your experience when you ask this type of question? What do you feel?

## Restoring the Kingdom

*Read Acts 1:7-8 - 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 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."*

Q: Jesus isn't so much concerned that we know **when** God will finally set the world to rights once and for all, but he is concerned that we know **how**. So the question is, how?

Q: What do you think it means to "receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you."

Q: What is the scope of God's redemption? Where does he want to bring about his Kingdom?

**Where** does this mean in your life?

Q: What would it look like if God's kingdom came into your areas of life? spend a few minutes talking about all the different areas of your world and talk about what it could look like for the Kingdom of Heaven to break in.

## On the Move

Spend time thinking about these two questions: How is God moving in you? Where is he moving you to? The first question has to do with God speaking identity into your life. The second question is about moving or operating from that identity. Write these down somewhere you can remind yourself during the week of this truth and challenge. Feel free to share with your small group and pray into the answers you receive.