

Conversation Guide

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MAY 3, 2026
APPEARANCES
"THIS ISN'T JUST
A STORY"
SARAH STANLEY

SCRIPTURE

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."

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

MAIN IDEA

Throughout our "Appearances" series, we've seen Jesus meeting people in the middle of messy, real life. We've discovered that He doesn't just comfort them, He invites them into transformation and mission. In His final moments with the disciples in Acts 1, He shifts their focus and calls them into what's next - promising the Holy Spirit as the power to live that out. The same Jesus who met people in grief, fear, and doubt now meets us—and sends us to bring the hope and life of Jesus to others.

TALK ABOUT IT

- Throughout this series, Jesus met people in very different situations (grief, fear, doubt, confusion). Which moment resonates most with your current season—and why?
- In Acts 1:6–8, the disciples are focused on timelines and outcomes, but Jesus redirects them to the Holy Spirit and the mission. Where do you find yourself asking God to "fix things" instead of asking how He might work in and through you?
- What has been your understanding or experience of the Holy Spirit? Does thinking of the Spirit as God's personal, present help (advocate, comforter) change anything for you?
- As this series wraps up, what is one key thing you're taking away about who Jesus is and how He meets people?

PUT IT INTO ACTION

- Where in your life are you relying on your own strength right now? What would it look like to invite the Holy Spirit into that specific situation?
- What are 3–5 words you hope will define your life (e.g., courage, peace, faithfulness, generosity)? What is one small step you can take this week toward becoming that kind of person? Who are the people who have embodied those things in your life?
- Who is one person in your life right now who needs hope, peace, or encouragement? What is one intentional way you can bring that to them this week?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take a quiet moment and reflect:

- Start by filling in the blank:
- “Jesus, meet me in my _____.” (fear, stress, doubt, grief, distraction...)
- Then shift your prayer:
- “Holy Spirit, empower me to experience you and live differently in this area.”
- If you're in a group, consider praying for:
 - The families from the Parent & Child Dedication—that they would have courage and wisdom as they lead their family to courageously follow Jesus.
 - Yourself—that you would not just experience Jesus' presence, but step into His purpose.
 - That our neighbourhoods, schools, city, the Okanagan and beyond would be reached with God's love and transformational power.

REMEMBER

“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to help you and be with you forever.”
- John 14:16

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”
- 2 Corinthians 3:17