

WITNESS



ACTS 1:1-14

The apostles are anxious, asking if the time has come for Israel to be restored. Is it time yet? But Jesus directs their hopes away from the kingdom of Israel, and toward the kingdom of God. Jesus tells the apostles that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit, and that they will be God's witnesses "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the farthest parts of the earth."

Then Jesus is lifted up into the clouds, disappearing from their sight. While the apostles are looking up into the sky after him, two men in white clothing suddenly stand near them. These men tell the apostles that Jesus will return again the same way the apostles saw him go.

TALK ABOUT THIS ...

The restoration Jesus talks about isn't political or military. It's not about that kind of power. It means that Jesus' followers will become a blessing and a witness of God to the world. Is this difficult for the apostles to understand? Is it difficult for us to understand now, too? Why does Jesus disappear? Think back to last week's discussion about the heart of God beating in all of us. Is Jesus really gone?

Consider the famous quote from Francis of Assisi: "Preach Jesus, and if necessary use words." What does that mean?



SURPRISE

What does it mean to be a witness to God in the world? What doesn't it mean? Do you witness more by what you say, or by what you do?



RELATIONSHIP

Have you ever experienced someone being a witness to God? What was that like?



PROGRESS

What is the good news of God? Why do you follow Jesus? What is the reason for your hope?

FAITH⁵ ... A BEDTIME ROUTINE FOR FAMILIES

SHARE your highs and lows from the day. READ the Bible story. TALK about how the Bible story relates to your highs and lows. PRAY for one another's highs and lows, and BLESS one another.

MORE INFORMATION: faith5.org