

## Journey through the Bible book of Acts with a friend

The Word One to One helps you get started with the Bible.

#### How it works

On the left is text from 'Acts' – one of the books of the Bible:

- Acts tells us what happened after Jesus' life, death and resurrection, the events recorded in the four eyewitness accounts called the Gospels (written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John).
- If you've enjoyed reading

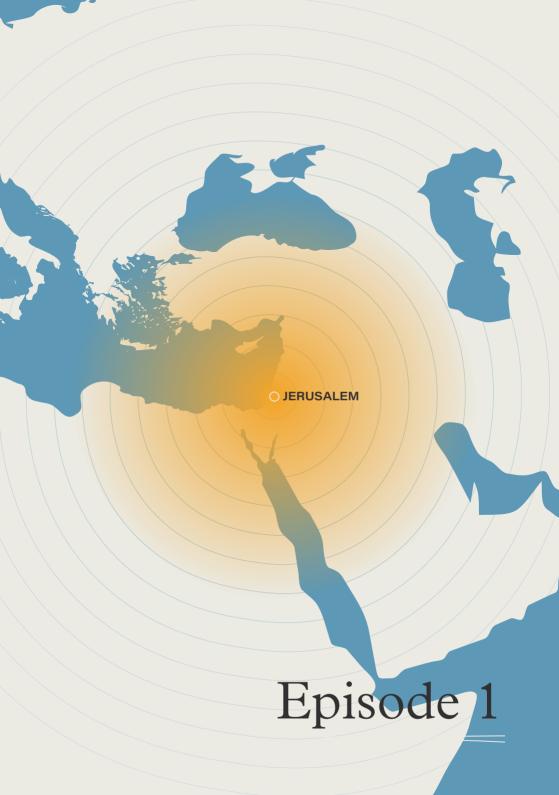
  The Word One to One: John

  but wondered what happened

  next, this is the book for you.

## On the right are notes to chat through with a friend:

- They highlight the main points from Acts and provide background information from the rest of the Bible.
- Many have found that talking these through with a Christian friend – one-to-one or in a small group – has been a great introduction to the Christian message and how it changed the world.



# Jesus' final instructions

**ACTS 1:1-11** 

In this episode: Jesus is about to return to heaven – so what happens next? <sup>1</sup>In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen

If you're interested in finding out more about what Jesus began to do and teach, read through *The Word One to One: John* with a friend.

Apostles: the disciples chosen by Jesus to bear witness to Him. They had been with Jesus as eyewitnesses right from the start of His public life.

### Luke writes again

The Bible book of Acts was written in the years after Jesus' death and resurrection by Luke, a doctor and investigative historian. He had already written Luke's Gospel, one of the four eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life.

Luke and Acts are both addressed to someone called Theophilus, so they're volumes 1 and 2 of the same story.

How does Luke summarise his first book?

 He wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach. (v. 1)

Jesus' work didn't finish when He was taken up to heaven.

We get to see what happened next... and what Jesus continues to do now.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup> For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

# What the apostles need to know

What did Jesus do after His death on the cross (His suffering) and His resurrection?

- He appeared to the apostles regularly, for forty days, so they knew He really was alive. (v. 3)
- He talked to them about His kingdom.
- He told them to wait for God's promised gift – God's own presence and power with them through the Holy Spirit. (vv. 4, 5)

When Jesus first went public, John the Baptist said, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.' (John 1:33)

This is what is about to happen to the apostles.