

# The Acts of the Apostles

The Acts of the Apostles (also called the Book of Acts) is the fifth book of the New Testament. If you look in your Bible you will find it right after St. John's Gospel. The Acts of the Apostles was written by the author of the third Gospel. Who wrote the Acts of the Apostles? \_\_\_\_\_.

Like a letter, both the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles are addressed to someone. We do not know anything about this person except that they were called "Theophilus." This is a name, or possibly a title, which means "friend of God."

The Gospels tell the story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the Apostles and the first Christians, life in the early Church, and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus throughout the Roman Empire.

**Write the names of the 12 Apostles:**

*(Tip: Refer to the Junior Church lesson from Easter III -May 3)*

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**Let's take a look at the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles:**

# The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(Acts 1:1–11)

“Dear Theophilus:

In my first book I wrote about all the things that Jesus did and taught from the time he began his work until the day he was taken up to heaven. Before he was taken up, he gave instructions by the power of the Holy Spirit to the men he had chosen as his apostles. For forty days after his death he appeared to them many times in ways that proved beyond doubt that he was alive. They saw him, and he talked with them about the Kingdom of God. And when they came together, he gave them this order: ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift I told you about, the gift my Father promised. John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

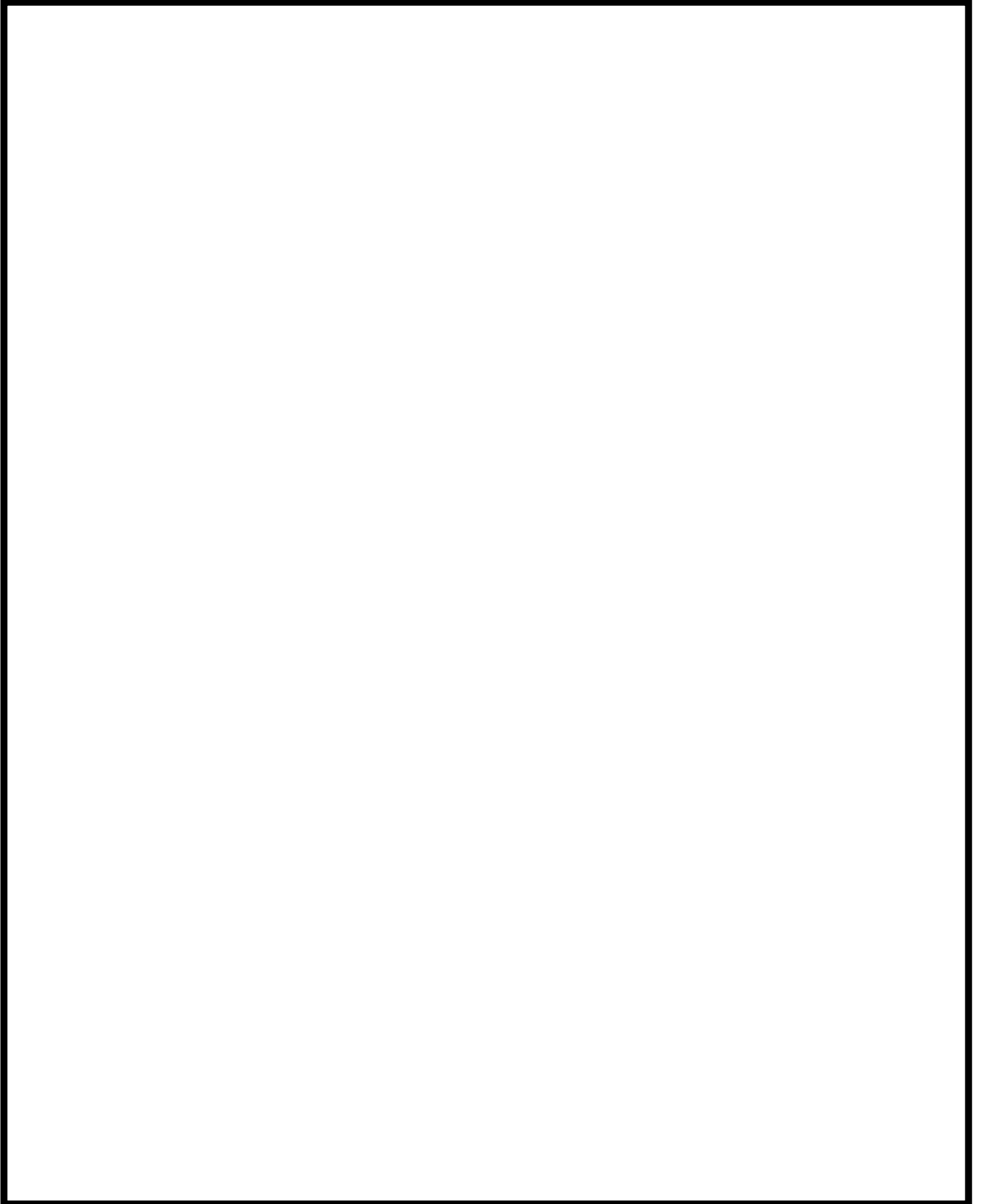
When the apostles met together with Jesus, they asked him, ‘Lord, will you at this time give the Kingdom back to Israel?’

Jesus said to them, ‘The times and occasions are set by my Father's own authority, and it is not for you to know when they will be. But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ After saying this, he was taken up to heaven as they watched him, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They still had their eyes fixed on the sky as he went away, when two men dressed in white suddenly stood beside them and said, ‘Galileans, why are you standing there looking up at the sky? This Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw him go to heaven.’”



*Draw the Ascension of Jesus:*



## *The Collect of the Day*

*(Say this prayer with your family)*

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that since we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

### **Video: The Feast of the Ascension explained with Lego!**

(Always ask a parent or guardian's permission before going online! Type this link into your browser or click on the link in the parish e-blast to watch this video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnRJ4cZQIE>



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Ascension of Jesus



Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ACTS  
ANGELS  
APOSTLES  
ASCENSION  
BAPTIZE  
BIBLE  
FATHER

FORTY  
GOD  
HEAVEN  
JERUSALEM  
JESUS  
KINGDOM  
LUKE

POWER  
PROMISE  
SKY  
SPIRIT  
THEOPHILUS  
WITNESS

*How many of these words appear in the Bible story on the second page? Read the story again and underline any of the words from the word search that you find!*