

Observation

1. Read Acts 1:1-11 together. What stands out to you as you read? What questions do you have?

Interpretation

- 2. In verses 1-5 we see that Jesus' disciples were equipped with both a first-hand experience of Jesus' resurrection as well as teaching about God's kingdom from Jesus himself. Why do you think that it was also important that they wait to receive the Spirit?
- 3. In what way might receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit be like a baptism? (see also Luke 3:16)?
- 4. Why do you think the disciples asked Jesus this question in verse 6? In what way might this reflect a misunderstanding of Jesus' mission?
- 5. How does Jesus correct their understanding of what his coming kingdom will look like in verses 7 and 8?

Application

- 6. Why do you think that we need the Holy Spirit today? Why might simply knowing intellectually about Jesus not be enough?
- 7. Today, what misconceptions do you think we might have about God's kingdom and about the way in which it comes in our world? How does knowing that much of God's kingdom work happens in and through his people shape how we choose to live?