



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: The Mission of Jesus Continues

Speaker: Rich Villodas – Lead Pastor

Scriptures: Acts 1: 1- 11

Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 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. 4 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. 5 For John baptized with[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with[b] the Holy Spirit.”

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, we’re launching a new sermon series on the Book of Acts that will take us through the summer. As a companion to our series on Mark, Acts shows us how Jesus invites ordinary people to carry on His mission and live out what He began.

Sermon Questions:

1. What is the best or worst sequel you have ever seen?
 - ❖ If we are not careful, the church can become a really bad sequel.
2. Like the disciples, before we step into the next season of life- we need the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Where do you need a fresh empowerment by the Holy Spirit?
3. Jesus forms us to be people who wait. Pastor Rich defined waiting on the Lord as: “choosing to live as if there’s a God who desires to give us what we need to do what God has called us to do.” When we are not waiting on the Lord we are making things happen in our own strength. What is an area of your life where you have been or are being tempted to make things happen in your own strength?

❖ Optional: Read Isaiah 40:28-31

4. Jesus forms us to be his witnesses. He's not talking about a task but an identity. A witness is someone who reflects Jesus to the world. In what way has your life been a witness to the world? In what ways are you struggling to be a witness in the world?