Text • ACTS 1 • Devotional Reading • Isaiah 40:31

FOCAL VERSES: Acts 1:1-9

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 2 After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 3 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; 4 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

The Ascension of Jesus

(Mk 16:19–20; Lk 24:50–53)

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

What do you think it was like for the Apostles to be there one minute with Jesus and the next minute witness His Ascension?

What do you think it was like for them while they were in the Upper Room?

Why is it sometimes hard to wait on God to manifest His promises?
Benefits of Waiting on GOD:

Declares our ________________ on Him John 15:5; Acts 17:28

Increases our ________________ Psalm 40:1; Psalm 62:5; Psalm 33:20-22; Proverbs 13:12; Philippians 4:12-13

Strengthens our ________________ 2 Peter 3:9; Psalm 27:13-14; Isaiah 40:31; Isaiah 30:18

Frustrates our ________________ Isaiah 8:10; Isaiah 54:17; Psalm 110:1; Psalm 33:10

Brings out the ________________ Romans 5:3-4; James 5:7-8; Psalm 26:2

Reveals His ________________ Proverbs 19:21; Proverbs 3:5-6; Romans 8:28; Lamentations 3:25

REMEMBER YOUR THOUGHTS: