



## I. INTRO

A. Lunch with Jesus – The dessert course!

**Luke 19:10 (NLT) For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”**

**Luke 7:34 (NLT) The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, ‘He’s a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!’**

- Jesus revealed the heart of God at tables, with real people

B. Handing off the mission

**Luke 24:44-48 (NIV) He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.**

**Luke 24:49-53 (NIV) I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.**

## II. THE HAND OFF

A. This story doesn’t end with the resurrection – it’s ongoing

**Acts 1:1 (NIV) In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach**

- **Theophilus:** His name means “Lover of God.” Possibly a high-ranking official or Roman authority. Theophilus could have been a new Christian or someone searching and questioning
- By writing to Theophilus, Luke bridges cultures, showing the Gospel is for Jew and Gentile, rich and poor, rulers and servants.

**Luke 1:3-4 (NIV) With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.**

B. Luke’s Gospel is what Jesus started, Acts is the continuing mission

**Acts 1:1-5 (NIV) In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 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. 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. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”**



### C. The mission and the method

**Acts 1:8-9 (NIV)** 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.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

### D. The power to be a witness

- **Dunamis** = strength, ability, inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature. Where we get the words **dynamite** and **dynamic**
  - **Not just energy**, but the power to *transform*, to *stand*, to *testify*, to *endure*
- **Martyres**: Root word of our English **martyr**
  - In Scripture, it goes beyond simply *speaking* — it's a person whose **life and actions** testify to what they've seen or believe

## III. JERUSALEM. JUDEA, SAMARIA, ENDS OF THE EARTH

### A. Who?

- **Jerusalem**: Your closest circle. Your home base
- **Judea**: Your region. People like you, but not as close
- **Samaria**: Your discomfort zone. People different from you
- **End of the earth**: Global impact. Larger than your capacity

## IV. CONCLUSION

### A. Who's not at the table?

- **By writing to Theophilus, Luke bridges cultures, showing the Gospel is for Jew and Gentile, rich and poor, rulers and servants**
- Luke had a seat, Theophilus had a seat... and **you** have a seat

### B. Jesus never left the table, it's been moved

- Jesus *began* something—and now it's **our turn to act**

**2 Corinthians 6:11 (NIV)** We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you.