



# 1 Youth Ministry

## Grades 7-12

**May 4, 2025**  
**What's Next?**

### Contact Us

14647 S. 50th Street,  
Suite 16  
Phoenix, Arizona  
85044  
480-584-6116

### Links

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Previous Lessons

Text Prayer  
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Anytime 24/7



### Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are always  
collecting "Personal  
Care Items" for teens in  
foster care throughout  
the year. Items for both  
male and female teens

See the sidebar for our new TEXT Prayer Request Line!  
Simply text "I need prayer" to 844-533-3553 anytime,  
and our team of Prayer Warriors will be praying for you.

**Coming May 16th!**  
**Spring Fling Youth Event**  
**Food, Fun, and Friends**  
**Invite Your Friends**  
**6pm to 10pm**

Sunday



### What's Next?

Last Sunday, the week after Easter, we talked about  
what comes next after the Resurrection. We said that's  
likely what at least some of the Disciples were thinking.

We said it may seem like the resurrection is the end of  
the story. After all, pretty much all the stories and  
movies about Jesus and the resurrection all seem to  
end when Jesus is resurrected. Even the Gospels seem  
to end shortly after the resurrection.

But, the fact is that Jesus was really just getting started.

After the resurrection, Jesus spent the next 40 days  
appearing to various people and His Disciples so there  
was definitely no shortage of people who actually saw

are being collected in the bin located on tables in the hall. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

### ----- This Week's Bible Verses

#### Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

#### John 14:12-14

<sup>12</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

#### Acts 1:4-5

<sup>4</sup> On one occasion,

and interacted with the very much alive Jesus.

He also spent a lot of time teaching His Disciples more of what they needed to know to fulfill their purpose. He very clearly told them exactly what their purpose was in **Matthew 28**. He also told them, in **John 14**, that whoever believes in Him will not only do the works that He was doing but they would do even greater things.

Needless to say, the story does not stop at the resurrection. It was actually just getting started.

We said that while the Gospel of Luke also seems to stop shortly after the resurrection, Luke continued to write about the Apostles, the early Church, and the spread of the Gospel in the **Book of Acts**.

Just before Jesus' ascension into Heaven, Luke tells us that Jesus gave His Disciples one last command. In **Acts 1:4-5** Jesus tells them to not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit which God will send.

The Disciples were going to receive the Holy Spirit, the powerful missing piece they would need to help them fulfill their purpose. But, they would have to wait.

We said to try to imagine what it would be like to be told you were going to receive this most amazing gift from God but you had to stay there and wait for it.

We then switched gears and talked about **Pentecost** which translates to "Fiftieth" in the Greek. The celebration of **Pentecost** traditionally occurs 50 days after the resurrection. It also just happens to align with the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot, which is also called **Pentecost** and is celebrated 50 days after the 1st day of Passover. Coincidence?

We said that for Christians, Pentecost is when the Disciples received the Holy Spirit. So, now we know they had to wait 10 days in Jerusalem. They waited in anticipation, praying together, and trusting that God would do what He said He would do, in His time.

We said that this can teach us a little something about faith and waiting on God's promises. But, why 10 days and why wait in Jerusalem? We said that this also teaches us something about God's perfect timing.

It turns out that Shavuot or Pentecost, is one of only three pilgrimage festivals where Jews from **every nation** would be in Jerusalem. This is important.

Luke tells us what happens on this **Pentecost** in **Acts 2**.



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.<sup>5</sup> For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

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[Visit our website here!](#)

He tells us that on the day of **Pentecost** a sound like a violent wind came from Heaven and filled the house where the Disciples were. Then tongues of fire came upon each of them and they were each filled with the **Holy Spirit**.

Then we saw the importance of waiting on God's perfect timing in **Acts 2:5-11**. When the Disciples received the Holy Spirit, He enabled them to speak in other tongues which allowed them to declare and to speak of the wonders of God to the large crowd that had gathered in each of their own languages.

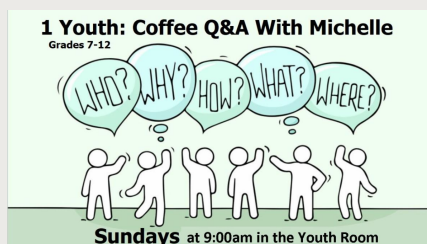
Needless to say, the large crowd of people, from every nation, witnessed the power of God and of the Holy Spirit first hand and they were utterly amazed.

We said that once the Disciples truly believed and had been filled with the Holy Spirit, they were ready to start sharing Jesus' message everywhere. They traveled all over, teaching, baptizing, forgiving sins, healing the sick, and even casting out demons all in Jesus' name.

We said that the remainder of the Book of **Acts** goes on to tell us all about the start and growth of the early Christian Church and about all the "Acts" of the Apostles who were part of it.

We said that just like the early believers, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we are also called to continue Jesus' ministry on Earth and to share His message of Love and Salvation with all who will hear it.

For Christians, the resurrection is definitely **NOT** the end of the story. Our old sinful lives ended with the crucifixion of Jesus but our new amazing lives are just beginning starting the day we first believe.



**Pre-Service Coffee Q&A**  
Sundays at 9:00am

Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, starting at 9:00am, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general.

Living Word Ahwatukee

Phone: (480) 584-6116

Email: [chris@1youthministry.com](mailto:chris@1youthministry.com)

Website: [www.1youthministry.org](http://www.1youthministry.org)

Connect with us



1 Youth Ministry | 14647 S. 50th Street, Suite 16 | Phoenix, AZ 85044 US

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