the TAKE HOME 04.19.15

Today's Scripture Passage:

Acts 1:1-11 | Page 770
1 In my former book (Luke's gospel), 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 showed himself to these men 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 water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 So when
they met together, they 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."

Luke 24:50-53 Page 749
50 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and
blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into
heaven. 52 Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. 53
And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. When you think about what you are going through right now, what does it mean to you that Jesus knows what He is doing and wants to lead you?

2. Jesus has brought you to where you are so that He can bless you. Are you ready to hear the good words He wishes to speak over you?

3. As you mediate on the different comforting and joyful aspects of the ascension, which stands out to you the most?

Sermon Notes

Joyfully Letting Jesus Go (Part One)

*V.50 Jesus **led** them*

*V.51 Jesus **blessed** them*

*V.51 Jesus **left** them*