

Bible Text New International Version	How is the Holy Spirit revealed in these Scriptures?
<p>Acts 1:1-9</p> <p>Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven</p> <p>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.”</p> <p>⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”</p> <p>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.”</p> <p>⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.</p> <p>Acts 1:12-26</p> <p>Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas</p> <p>¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk ^c from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.</p> <p><i>continued</i></p> <p>a. Or <i>in</i> b. Or <i>in</i> c. That is, about 5/8 mile or about 1 kilometer</p>	

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<p>Acts 1:12-26 (continued)</p> <p>¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) ¹⁶ and said, “Brothers and sisters,^[d] the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.”</p> <p>¹⁸ (With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹ Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)</p> <p>²⁰ “For,” said Peter, “it is written in the Book of Psalms:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,^[e]</p> <p>and,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“May another take his place of leadership.”^[f]</p> <p>²¹ Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, ²² beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”</p> <p>²³ So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.” ²⁶ Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.</p> <p>d. The Greek word for <i>brothers and sisters</i> (<i>adelphoi</i>) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God’s family; also in 6:3; 11:29; 12:17; 16:40; 18:18, 27; 21:7, 17; 28:14, 15.</p> <p>e. Psalm 69:25</p> <p>f. Psalm 109:8</p>	

Reflections

The Spirit's power gives and renews life. Where do you need a new sense of His power right now in your relationships with the Lord, family, friends...?

Jesus said, "*When* the Holy Spirit comes upon you..." When have you experienced closeness to God? How is this closeness reflected in your relationships? Describe a time when you didn't experience His closeness. What impact did that lack of intimacy have on you and those around you?

