

- Song 92 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

- “Equipped to Do Jehovah’s Work”: (10 min.)



Ex 35:25, 26—Jehovah blessed the willing spirit of his people (w14 12/15 4 ¶4)

(Exodus 35:25, 26) All the skilled women spun with their hands, and they brought what they had spun: blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen. 26 And all the skilled women whose hearts impelled them spun the goat hair.

35:25, 26, 30-35; 36:1, 2

Jehovah’s holy spirit equipped Bezalel and Oholiab to carry out the detailed plans for the tabernacle. Jehovah’s powerful holy spirit is also available to his servants today. How can we benefit from it?

- We must pray for holy spirit to heighten any abilities we have in Jehovah’s service
- We must diligently feed on God’s inspired Word
- We should pour our heart into any assignment we are given

For what assignments can Jehovah equip you?



*** w14 12/15 p. 4 Jehovah Richly Blesses a Willing Spirit ***

What brought Jehovah the most pleasure was, not the material offerings, but the willing spirit of those who thus supported pure worship. They were also moved to contribute their time and labor. “All the skilled women spun with their hands,” says the account. Indeed, “all the skilled women whose hearts impelled them spun the goat hair.” Moreover, Jehovah gave Bezalel “wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of every sort of craftsmanship.” In fact, God filled Bezalel and Oholiab with the skill needed to do all the work that was commissioned.—Ex. 35:25, 26, 30-35.

- (Exodus 35:25, 26) All the skilled women spun with their hands, and they brought what they had spun: blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen. 26 And all the skilled women whose hearts impelled them spun the goat hair.
- (Exodus 35:30-35) Then Moses said to the Israelites: “See, Jehovah has chosen Bez’al-el the son of U’ri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. 31 He has filled him with the spirit of God, giving him wisdom, understanding, and

knowledge of every sort of craftsmanship ³²for making artistic designs, for working with gold, silver, and copper, ³³for cutting and setting stones, and for making all kinds of artistic wood products. ³⁴And he has put it into his heart to teach, he and O·ho'li·ab the son of A·his'a·mach of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵He has filled them with skill to do all the work of a craftsman, an embroiderer, and a weaver using blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen, and of a loom worker. These men will do every sort of work and prepare every sort of design.

Ex 35:30-35—Holy spirit equipped Bezalel and Oholiab for “every sort of work” (w11 12/15 18 ¶6)

(Exodus 35:30-35) Then Moses said to the Israelites: “See, Jehovah has chosen Bez'al·el the son of U'ri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. ³¹ He has filled him with the spirit of God, giving him wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of every sort of craftsmanship ³²for making artistic designs, for working with gold, silver, and copper, ³³for cutting and setting stones, and for making all kinds of artistic wood products. ³⁴ And he has put it into his heart to teach, he and O·ho'li·ab the son of A·his'a·mach of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵ He has filled them with skill to do all the work of a craftsman, an embroiderer, and a weaver using blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen, and of a loom worker. These men will do every sort of work and prepare every sort of design.

*** w11 12/15 pp. 18-19 par. 6 Faithful Ones of Old—Guided by God's Spirit ***

6 The experience of Moses' contemporary Bezalel reveals much about the way God's spirit can operate. (Read Exodus 35:30-35.) Bezalel was appointed to take the lead in making the necessary furnishings for the tabernacle. Did he have knowledge of crafts

prior to this vast project? Possibly, but in all likelihood his most recent job was that of making bricks for the Egyptians. (Ex. 1:13, 14) So how would Bezalel fulfill his complicated task? Jehovah “proceeded to fill him with the spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding and in knowledge and in every sort of craftsmanship and for designing devices . . . to make ingenious products of every sort.” Whatever natural aptitude Bezalel may have had was enhanced by holy spirit. The same is true of Oholiab. Bezalel and Oholiab must have learned well, for they not only performed their duties but also taught others what to do. Yes, God put it into their hearts to teach.

- (Exodus 35:30-35) Then Moses said to the Israelites: “See, Jehovah has chosen Bez'al·el the son of U'ri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. ³¹ He has filled him with the spirit of God, giving him wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of every sort of craftsmanship ³²for making artistic designs, for working with gold, silver, and copper, ³³for cutting and setting stones, and for making all kinds of artistic wood products. ³⁴And he has put it into his heart to teach, he and O·ho'li·ab the son of A·his'a·mach of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵He has filled them with skill to do all the work of a craftsman, an embroiderer, and a weaver using blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen, and of a loom worker. These men will do every sort of work and prepare every sort of design.
- (Exodus 1:13, 14) Consequently, the Egyptians forced the Israelites into harsh slavery. ¹⁴They made their life bitter with hard labor, as they worked with clay mortar and bricks and in every form of slavery in the field. Yes, they made them toil in harsh conditions in every form of slavery.

Ex 36:1, 2—Jehovah rightly received the credit for their work (w11 12/15 19 ¶7)

(Exodus 36:1, 2) “Bez'al-el will work along with O·ho'li-ab and every skilled man to whom Jehovah has given wisdom and understanding so as to know how to do all the work of the holy service just as Jehovah has commanded.” 2 Moses then called Bez'al-el and O·ho'li-ab and every skilled man into whose heart Jehovah had put wisdom, everyone whose heart impelled him to volunteer to do the work.

*** w11 12/15 p. 19 par. 7 Faithful Ones of Old—Guided by God's Spirit ***

7 Another testimony that Bezalel and Oholiab were guided by God's spirit is the amazing durability of their work. Their productions were still in use some 500 years later. (2 Chron. 1:2-6) Unlike modern-day manufacturers, Bezalel and Oholiab had no interest in leaving their signature or trademark on their work. All credit went to Jehovah for their accomplishments.—Ex. 36:1, 2.

- (2 Chronicles 1:2-6) Sol'o-mon sent for all Israel, the chiefs of the thousands and of the hundreds, the judges, and all the chieftains of all Israel, the heads of the paternal houses. 3 Then Sol'o-mon and all the congregation went to the high place at Gib'e-on, for that was where the tent of meeting of the true God was, which tent Moses the servant of Jehovah had made in the wilderness. 4 However, David had brought the Ark of the true God up from Kir'i-ath-je'a-rim to the place that David had prepared for it; he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem. 5 And the copper altar that Bez'al-el the son of U'ri the son of Hur had made had been put before the tabernacle of Jehovah; and Sol'o-mon and the congregation would pray before it. 6 Sol'o-mon now made offerings there before Jehovah, and he offered up

1,000 burnt offerings on the copper altar of the tent of meeting.

- (Exodus 36:1, 2) “Bez'al-el will work along with O·ho'li-ab and every skilled man to whom Jehovah has given wisdom and understanding so as to know how to do all the work of the holy service just as Jehovah has commanded.” 2 Moses then called Bez'al-el and O·ho'li-ab and every skilled man into whose heart Jehovah had put wisdom, everyone whose heart impelled him to volunteer to do the work.

Digging for Spiritual Gems:

Ex 35:1-3—What can we learn from the Sabbath law? (w05 5/15 23 ¶14)

(Exodus 35:1-3) 35 Moses later gathered the entire assembly of the Israelites together and said to them: “These are the things that Jehovah has commanded to be done: 2 Work may be done for six days, but the seventh day will become something holy to you, a sabbath of complete rest to Jehovah. Anybody doing work on it will be put to death. 3 You must not light a fire in any of your dwelling places on the Sabbath day.”

*** w05 5/15 p. 23 par. 14 Coming to Know Jehovah's Ways ***

14 Give priority to spiritual matters. The nation of Israel was not to allow caring for physical needs to crowd out attention given to spiritual activities. The Israelites' lives were not to be devoted solely to mundane pursuits. Jehovah set aside time each week that he designated as sacred, time used exclusively for activity related to worship of the true God. (Exodus 35:1-3; Numbers 15:32-36) Each year, additional time was to be set aside for specified holy

conventions. (Leviticus 23:4-44) These would provide opportunities to recount Jehovah's mighty acts, to be reminded of his ways, and to express gratitude to him for all of his goodness. As the people expressed their devotion to Jehovah, they would grow in godly fear and love and would be helped to walk in his ways. (Deuteronomy 10:12, 13) The wholesome principles embodied in those instructions benefit Jehovah's servants today.—Hebrews 10:24, 25.

- Paragraph 14
- (Exodus 35:1-3) Moses later gathered the entire assembly of the Israelites together and said to them: "These are the things that Jehovah has commanded to be done: 2 Work may be done for six days, but the seventh day will become something holy to you, a sabbath of complete rest to Jehovah. Anybody doing work on it will be put to death. 3 You must not light a fire in any of your dwelling places on the Sabbath day."
- (Numbers 15:32-36) While the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man collecting pieces of wood on the Sabbath day. 33 Those who found him collecting wood brought him up to Moses and Aaron and the whole assembly. 34 They committed him into custody because it had not been specified what should be done to him. 35 And Jehovah said to Moses: "The man should be put to death without fail, and the whole assembly should stone him outside the camp." 36 So the whole assembly brought him outside the camp and stoned him so that he died, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.
- (Leviticus 23:4-44) "These are the seasonal festivals of Jehovah, holy

conventions that you should proclaim at the times appointed for them: 5 In the first month, on the 14th day of the month, at twilight is the Passover to Jehovah. 6 "On the 15th day of this month is the Festival of Unleavened Bread to Jehovah. Seven days you should eat unleavened bread. 7 On the first day, you will observe a holy convention. You should not do any hard work. 8 But you are to present an offering made by fire to Jehovah for seven days. There will be a holy convention on the seventh day. You should not do any hard work." 9 Jehovah continued to speak to Moses, saying: 10 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them, 'When you eventually come into the land that I am giving you and you have reaped its harvest, you must bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest. 11 And he will wave the sheaf back and forth before Jehovah to gain approval for you. The priest should wave it on the day after the Sabbath. 12 On the day you have the sheaf waved, you must offer a sound young ram in its first year, as a burnt offering to Jehovah. 13 Its grain offering will be two tenths of an e'phah of fine flour mixed with oil, as an offering made by fire to Jehovah, a pleasing aroma. Its drink offering will be a fourth of a hin of wine. 14 You must not eat any bread, roasted grain, or new grain until this day, until you bring the offering of your God. It is a lasting statute for all your generations wherever you dwell. 15 "You are to count seven sabbaths from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you bring the sheaf of the wave offering. They should be complete weeks. 16 You will count off 50 days until the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then you should present a new grain

offering to Jehovah. 17 You should bring from your dwelling places two loaves as a wave offering. These should be made of two tenths of an e'phah of fine flour. They should be baked with leaven, as first ripe fruits to Jehovah. 18 And you should present along with the loaves seven sound male lambs, each a year old, and one young bull and two rams. They will serve as a burnt offering to Jehovah along with the corresponding grain offering and drink offerings, as an offering made by fire, of a pleasing aroma to Jehovah. 19 And you must offer one young goat as a sin offering and two male lambs, each a year old, as a communion sacrifice. 20 The priest will wave them back and forth along with the loaves of the first ripe fruits, as a wave offering before Jehovah, together with the two male lambs. They should serve as something holy to Jehovah for the priest. 21 On this day you will make a proclamation for a holy convention for yourselves. You may not do any hard work. It is a lasting statute in all your dwelling places for all your generations. 22 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you must not reap the edge of your field completely and you should not pick up what is left from your harvest. You should leave it for the poor and for the foreign resident. I am Jehovah your God." 23 Jehovah went on speaking to Moses, saying: 24 "Tell the Israelites, 'In the seventh month, on the first of the month, you should observe a complete rest, a memorial signaled by a trumpet blast, a holy convention. 25 You may not do any hard work, and you will present an offering made by fire to Jehovah.'" 26 Jehovah spoke further to Moses, saying: 27 "However, on

the tenth of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. You should observe a holy convention, and you must afflict yourselves and present an offering made by fire to Jehovah. 28 You are not to do any sort of work on this particular day because it is a day of atonement to make atonement for you before Jehovah your God. 29 Anyone who will not afflict himself on this day will be cut off from his people. 30 And I will destroy from among his people every person who does any sort of work on this day. 31 You must not do any sort of work. It is a lasting statute for all your generations wherever you dwell. 32 It is a sabbath of complete rest for you, and you will afflict yourselves on the ninth of the month in the evening. You should observe your sabbath from evening to evening." 33 Jehovah continued speaking to Moses, saying: 34 "Tell the Israelites, 'On the 15th day of this seventh month is the Festival of Booths for seven days to Jehovah. 35 There is to be a holy convention on the first day, and you should not do any hard work. 36 Seven days you must present an offering made by fire to Jehovah. On the eighth day, you should observe a holy convention, and you should present an offering made by fire to Jehovah. It is a solemn assembly. You may not do any hard work. 37 "These are the seasonal festivals of Jehovah that you should proclaim as holy conventions for presenting an offering made by fire to Jehovah: the burnt offering and the grain offering of the sacrifice and the drink offerings according to the daily schedule. 38 These are in addition to what is offered on Jehovah's sabbaths, and your gifts, your vow offerings, and your voluntary

offerings, which you should give to Jehovah. 39 However, on the 15th day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the produce of the land, you should celebrate the festival of Jehovah for seven days. On the first day is a complete rest and on the eighth day is a complete rest. 40 On the first day, you will take the fruit of majestic trees, the fronds of palm trees, the branches of leafy trees and poplars of the valley, and you will rejoice before Jehovah your God for seven days. 41 You will celebrate it as a festival to Jehovah for seven days in the year. As a lasting statute during all your generations, you should celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 You should dwell in the booths for seven days. All the natives in Israel should dwell in the booths, 43 so that your future generations may know that it was in the booths that I made the Israelites dwell when I was bringing them out of the land of Egypt. I am Jehovah your God.” 44 So Moses spoke of the seasonal festivals of Jehovah to the Israelites.

- (Deuteronomy 10:12, 13) “Now, O Israel, what is Jehovah your God asking of you? Only this: to fear Jehovah your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve Jehovah your God with all your heart and all your soul, 13 and to keep the commandments and statutes of Jehovah that I am commanding you today for your own good.
- (Hebrews 10:24, 25) And let us consider one another so as to incite to love and fine works, 25 not forsaking our meeting together, as some have the custom, but encouraging one another, and all the more so as you see the day drawing near.

Ex 35:21—How is the generous spirit of the Israelites an excellent example for us? (w00 11/1 29 ¶1)

(Exodus 35:21) 21 Then everyone whose heart impelled him and everyone whose spirit incited him came and brought their contribution for Jehovah to be used for the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. . .

*** w00 11/1 p. 29 Riches of Generosity Bring Joy ***

Imagine, then, how the Israelites felt. Generations had suffered through bitter slavery and deprivation. Now they were free and had rich material possessions. How would they feel about parting with some of those possessions? They might have felt that they had earned them and had a right to keep them. However, when called upon to contribute financially to support pure worship, they did so—and not reluctantly or stingily! They did not forget that Jehovah had made it possible for them to have those material things. Thus, they gave abundantly of their silver and gold and livestock. They were “willing-hearted.” Their ‘hearts impelled them.’ ‘Their spirit incited them.’ It truly was “a voluntary offering to Jehovah.”—Exodus 25:1-9; 35:4-9, 20-29; 36:3-7.

- (Exodus 25:1-9) Jehovah then said to Moses: 2 “Tell the people of Israel to take up a contribution for me; from every person whose heart moves him, you are to take up my contribution. 3 This is the contribution that you are to accept from them: gold, silver, copper, 4 blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, 5 ram skins dyed red, sealskins, acacia wood, 6 oil for the lamps, balsam for the anointing oil and for the perfumed incense, 7 and onyx stones and other stones to be set in the eph'od and the breastpiece. 8 They are to make a sanctuary for me, and I will reside among them. 9 You are to make it, the tabernacle and all its furnishings,

following exactly the pattern that I am showing you.

- (Exodus 35:4-9) Moses then said to the entire assembly of the Israelites: "This is what Jehovah has commanded, 5 'Take up a contribution for Jehovah from among yourselves. Let everyone with a willing heart bring a contribution for Jehovah: gold, silver, copper, 6 blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, 7 ram skins dyed red, sealskins, acacia wood, 8 oil for the lamps, balsam for the anointing oil and for the perfumed incense, 9 onyx stones, and other stones for setting in the eph'od and the breastpiece.
- (Exodus 35:20-29) So all the assembly of the Israelites went out from before Moses. 21 Then everyone whose heart impelled him and everyone whose spirit incited him came and brought their contribution for Jehovah to be used for the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. 22 They kept coming, the men along with the women, each with a willing heart, bringing brooches, earrings, rings, and other jewelry, as well as all sorts of articles of gold. They all presented their offerings of gold to Jehovah. 23 And all who had blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, ram skins dyed red, and sealskins brought them. 24 All those contributing silver and copper brought Jehovah's contribution, and all who had acacia wood for any part of the work brought it. 25 All the skilled women spun with their hands, and they brought what they had spun: blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen. 26 And all the skilled women whose hearts impelled them spun the goat hair. 27 And the chieftains brought onyx stones and other stones to be set in the eph'od and the breastpiece, 28 and the balsam and the oil for lighting and for the anointing

oil and for the perfumed incense. 29 All the men and women whose hearts incited them brought something for the work that Jehovah, through Moses, had commanded to be done; the Israelites brought it as a voluntary offering to Jehovah.

- (Exodus 36:3-7) Then they took from Moses all the contribution that the Israelites had brought for the work of the holy service. However, these continued to bring him voluntary offerings, morning after morning. 4 Then after they started the holy work, all the skilled workers were coming, one after another, 5 and they were telling Moses: "The people are bringing much more than what is required for the work that Jehovah has commanded to be done." 6 So Moses commanded that an announcement be made throughout the camp, saying: "Men and women, do not bring any more goods for the holy contribution." With that the people were restrained from bringing in anything else. 7 The goods were enough for all the work to be done, and more than enough.

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah God, the field ministry, or something else?

Bible Reading:) (4 min. or less) • Ex 35:1-24 (th study 11)

(Exodus 35:1-24) 35 Moses later gathered the entire assembly of the Israelites together and said to them: "These are the things that Jehovah has commanded to be done: 2 Work may be done for six days, but the seventh day will become something holy to you, a sabbath of complete rest to Jehovah. Anybody doing work on it will be put to death. 3 You must not light a fire in any of your dwelling places on the Sabbath day." 4 Moses then said to the entire assembly of the Israelites: "This is what Jehovah has commanded, 5 'Take up a contribution for Jehovah from among yourselves. Let everyone with a willing heart bring a contribution for Jehovah: gold, silver, copper, 6 blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, 7 ram skins dyed red, sealskins, acacia wood, 8 oil for the lamps, balsam for the anointing oil and for the perfumed incense, 9 onyx stones, and other stones for setting in the eph'od and the breastpiece. 10 "'Let all who are skilled among you come and make everything that Jehovah has commanded, 11 namely, the tabernacle with its tent and its covering, its clasps and its panel frames, its bars, its pillars, and its socket pedestals; 12 the Ark and its poles, the cover, and the curtain for the screen; 13 the table and its poles and all its utensils and the showbread; 14 the lampstand for light and its utensils and its lamps and the oil for lighting; 15 the altar of incense and its poles; the anointing oil and the perfumed incense; the screen for the tabernacle's entrance; 16 the altar of burnt offering and its copper grating, its poles and all its utensils; the basin and its stand; 17 the hanging curtains of the courtyard, its pillars and its socket pedestals; the screen of the entrance to the courtyard; 18 the tent pins of the tabernacle and the tent pins of the courtyard and their cords; 19 the finely woven garments for ministering in the sanctuary, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons for serving as priests.'" 20 So all the assembly of the Israelites went out from before Moses. 21 Then everyone

whose heart impelled him and everyone whose spirit incited him came and brought their contribution for Jehovah to be used for the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. 22 They kept coming, the men along with the women, each with a willing heart, bringing brooches, earrings, rings, and other jewelry, as well as all sorts of articles of gold. They all presented their offerings of gold to Jehovah. 23 And all who had blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, ram skins dyed red, and sealskins brought them. 24 All those contributing silver and copper brought Jehovah's contribution, and all who had acacia wood for any part of the work brought it.

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

Initial Call: (3 min. or less) Use the sample conversation. (th study 11)

●○ INITIAL CALL

Question: Is the Bible still relevant today?

Scripture: 2Ti 3:16

Link: Is the Bible compatible with science?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

• fg lesson 11 ¶1

(2 Timothy 3:16) 16 All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness,

• Return Visit: (4 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then direct the householder to our website, and leave a jw.org contact card. (th study 4)

○● RETURN VISIT

Question: Is the Bible compatible with science?

Scripture: Job 26:7

Link: Is the Bible's advice practical?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:

• bhs 21 ¶8

(Job 26:7) 7 He stretches out the northern sky over empty space, Suspending the earth upon nothing;

• Bible Study: (5 min. or less) bhs 26 ¶18-20 (th study 19)

*** bhs chap. 2 p. 26 pars. 18-20 The Bible—A Book From God ***

18. How does Paul describe “the word of God”?

18 We have learned that there is no other book like the Bible. It is harmonious, and when it talks about scientific or historical matters, it is always accurate. It also gives us good advice and contains many prophecies that have already come true. But the Bible does even more than that. The apostle Paul wrote: “The word of God is alive and exerts power.” What does that mean?—Read Hebrews 4:12.

19, 20. (a) How can the Bible help you to know who you are?

19 The Bible can change your life. It can help you to know who you really are. It can help you to understand your deepest thoughts and feelings. For example, we may think that we

love God. But to prove that we love him, we need to apply what the Bible says.

20 The Bible truly is a book from God. He wants you to read it, study it, and love it. Be thankful for this gift, and keep studying it. Then you will understand God’s purpose for humans. In the next chapter, we will learn more about this purpose.

- (Hebrews 4:12) 12 For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints from the marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 68

• 2018 Publishing Committee Report: (15 min.) Play the video. Then ask the audience: What changes has the organization made in our printing operations, and why? What endeavors have accelerated because of the reduction in printing? What important role does translation play in the production of spiritual food? What blessings have resulted from digital publishing and video production?

What changes has the organization made in our printing operations, and why?

What endeavors have accelerated because of the reduction in printing?

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

CHAPTER 137

Hundreds See Him Prior to Pentecost

(Matthew 28:16-20) However, the 11 disciples went to Gal'i-lee to the mountain where Jesus had arranged for them to meet. 17 When they saw him, they did obeisance, but some doubted. 18 Jesus approached and spoke to them, saying: "All authority has been given me in heaven and on the earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things."

(Luke 24:50-52) Then he led them out as far as Beth'a·ny, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them. 51 As he was blessing them, he was parted from them and taken up to heaven. 52 And they did obeisance to him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

(Acts 1:1-12) The first account, O The·oph'i·lus, I composed about all the things Jesus started to do and to teach 2 until the day that he was taken up, after he had given instructions through holy spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After he had suffered, he showed himself alive to them by many convincing proofs. He was seen by them throughout 40 days, and he was speaking about the Kingdom of God. 4 While he was meeting with them, he ordered them: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but keep waiting for what the Father has promised, about which you heard from me; 5 for John, indeed, baptized with water, but you will be baptized with holy spirit not many days after this." 6 So when they had assembled, they asked him: "Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?" 7 He said to them: "It does not belong to you to know the times or seasons that the Father has

What important role does translation play in the production of spiritual food?

What blessings have resulted from digital publishing and video production?

placed in his own jurisdiction. 8 But you will receive power when the holy spirit comes upon you, and you will be witnesses of me in Jerusalem, in all Ju·de'a and Sa·mar'i·a, and to the most distant part of the earth." 9 After he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their sight. 10 And as they were gazing into the sky while he was on his way, suddenly two men in white garments stood beside them 11 and said: "Men of Gal'i-lee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was taken up from you into the sky will come in the same manner as you have seen him going into the sky." 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from a mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, only a sabbath day's journey away.

(Acts 2:1-4) Now while the day of the Festival of Pentecost was in progress, they were all together at the same place. 2 Suddenly there was a noise from heaven, just like that of a rushing, stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed, and one came to rest on each one of them, 4 and they all became filled with holy spirit and started to speak in different languages, just as the spirit enabled them to speak.

Paragraph 1 on Page 310

(Matthew 28:17) When they saw him, they did obeisance, but some doubted.

(1 Corinthians 15:6) After that he appeared to more than 500 brothers at one time, most of whom are still with us, though some have fallen asleep in death.

Paragraph 2 on Page 310

(Matthew 28:18-20) Jesus approached and spoke to them, saying: "All authority has been given me in heaven and on the earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you

all the days until the conclusion of the system of things."

Paragraph 4 on Page 310

(Acts 1:3) After he had suffered, he showed himself alive to them by many convincing proofs. He was seen by them throughout 40 days, and he was speaking about the Kingdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 15:7) After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

Paragraph 5 on Page 310

(Acts 1:4, 5) While he was meeting with them, he ordered them: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but keep waiting for what the Father has promised, about which you heard from me; 5 for John, indeed, baptized with water, but you will be baptized with holy spirit not many days after this."

Paragraph 6 on Page 310

(Luke 24:50) Then he led them out as far as Beth'a·ny, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them.

(Luke 22:16) for I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God."

(Luke 22:18) for I tell you, from now on, I will not drink again from the product of the vine until the Kingdom of God comes."

(Luke 22:30) so that you may eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom, and sit on thrones to judge the 12 tribes of Israel.

(John 14:2, 3) In the house of my Father are many dwelling places. Otherwise, I would have told you, for I am going my way to prepare a place for you. 3 Also, if I go my way and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will receive you home to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

Paragraph 7 on Page 310

(Acts 1:6-8) So when they had assembled, they asked him: "Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?" 7 He said to them: "It does not belong to you to know the times or seasons that the Father has placed in

his own jurisdiction. 8 But you will receive power when the holy spirit comes upon you, and you will be witnesses of me in Jerusalem, in all Ju-de'a and Sa-mar'i-a, and to the most distant part of the earth."

Paragraph 8 on Page 310

(1 Corinthians 15:44) It is sown a physical body; it is raised up a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual one.

(1 Corinthians 15:50) But I tell you this, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's Kingdom, nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

(1 Peter 3:18) For Christ died once for all time for sins, a righteous person for unrighteous ones, in order to lead you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

(Acts 1:10, 11) And as they were gazing into the sky while he was on his way, suddenly two men in white garments stood beside them 11 and said: "Men of Gal'i-lee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was taken up from you into the sky will come in the same manner as you have seen him going into the sky."

Paragraph 1 on Page 311

(Acts 1:14) With one purpose all of these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers.

(Matthew 19:28) Jesus said to them: "Truly I say to you, in the re-creation, when the Son of man sits down on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will sit on 12 thrones, judging the 12 tribes of Israel.

(Psalm 109:8) Let his days be few; His office of oversight let someone else take.

(Proverbs 16:33) The lot is cast into the lap, But every decision by it is from Jehovah.

(Acts 1:26) So they cast lots over them, and the lot fell to Mat-thi'as, and he was counted along with the 11 apostles.

Paragraph 2 on Page 311

(John 14:26) But the helper, the holy spirit, which the Father will send in my name, that one will teach you all things and bring back to your minds all the things I told you.

◇ ◇ Who are present when Jesus gives instructions at a mountain in Galilee, and what does he say?

◇ ◇ For how long after his resurrection does Jesus appear to his disciples, and what does he do?

◇ ◇ Given how he departs, in what manner is Jesus to return?

◇ What occurs at Pentecost 33 C.E.?

• Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)

• Song 69 and Prayer