



**Worship Illustration: Storybook  
Commander Cosmos  
Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation  
Unit 1, Lesson 1**

# **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

**Acts 1:3-11**

**"Let's see, we've got three crates of frozen broccoli, check! 500 gallons of lemonade, check! 1,000 boxes of chocolaty Cocoa Puffs, double check!" Lieutenant Ruby Starlight made check mark after check mark on her clipboard as she counted the silver food supply boxes labeled "Skylab Omega" and thought about the upcoming mission. "I can't wait to get started on our five month mission to spread the Gospel to the galaxy!"**

**"All hands on deck for Commander Cosmos: Space Ranger!" came the computer voice announcement. Lt. Ruby dropped the clipboard on the table and snapped to attention.**

**Commander Cosmos shimmered into view inside the teleport and promptly tripped over a supply box as he entered the room. Jumping up quickly, he announced gallantly, "I meant to do that! At ease, Lieutenant. Commander Cosmos, Space Ranger at your service!"**

**Lt. Ruby relaxed and retrieved her clipboard. "So are we ready to take off?"**

**"Soon, Lieutenant, soon," Commander Cosmos assured.**

**"Did you finish your systems checks?" asked Ruby.**

**"All systems are 'Go,'" Commander Cosmos replied as he examined Lt. Ruby's report.**

**Ruby's eyes lit up and she grinned. "Then we can take off!"**

**Commander Cosmos waved his hand. "Slow down. In due time."**

**"But, I thought we were taking off today! I haven't been in space in so long and I'm so excited to get up there and see the galaxy again! I'll prepare the engines and the computers and the..." Lt. Ruby began excitedly.**

**"Patience, Lieutenant, patience," Commander Cosmos interrupted. "We have to wait."**

**Ruby was confused. "Wait? What are we waiting for?"**

**Commander Cosmos sat down at the control panel. "Our marching orders."**

**Lt. Ruby's eyebrows furrowed. "But, I thought the commander is supposed to give the orders and you're the commander!"**

**"Of this vessel? Yes," the Commander said. "But," he lowered his voice until it was almost a whisper, "there is a supreme commander that has authority over every move I make."**

**"Is it God?" asked Ruby, also speaking softly and respectfully.**

**"It is!" Commander Cosmos yelled, startling Ruby who had leaned in to hear him better. "And we are going to get instructions from Him by checking the flight manual, right now!" He opened a clear plastic door and brought out a shiny, silver book.**

**Lt. Starlight admired the book. "Wow! What's that?"**

**"This is God's Holy Bible," said the Commander. "But, I call it my flight manual because I never take a step without first checking God's Word and asking Him to show me His plan!"**

**"But that book is thousands of years old. How can it show us what to do today?"**

**"Why, Lt. Ruby Starlight, don't you know that the Spirit of God is bigger than time and space? The Bible says, 'Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!'"**

**"God has a message for us today?" Lt. Ruby wondered.**

**"God always has a message!" Commander Cosmos assured, as he turned to the book of Acts chapter 1. "Ah, here it is! This message takes place after Jesus died and came back."**

**"Oh yes," Ruby remembered. "Jesus came back to life and visited His disciples!"**

**Commander Cosmos read, "Jesus appeared to His followers many times over a period of forty days but on one occasion He said to them, 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised...'"**

**"Again with the waiting!" Lt. Ruby interrupted. "What gift was He talking about? What did Jesus want them to wait for?"**

**"Open up the Virtual Bible and we can read it together!" Commander Cosmos instructed.**

**"Aye, aye, Commander," Ruby saluted. "Accessing Virtual Bible!" She touched the keypad and suddenly the words from Acts 1 appeared on a large computer screen on the wall.**

**They read, "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."**

**"So, the gift was the Holy Spirit?" Lt. Ruby wondered.**

**"Yes," Commander Cosmos agreed. "Jesus gave them an important mission and He instructed them not to leave until they had the power to fulfill His mission. And do you know where that power comes from?"**

**"The...Holy Spirit of God?" she guessed.**

**"Exactly!" Commander Cosmos shouted.**

**"What exactly is the Holy Spirit?" Lt. Ruby asked.**

**Commander Cosmos smiled, "The Holy Spirit is God! He's the part of God that helps us know what God wants us to do. The Holy Spirit points us toward Jesus."**

**Ruby's eyes lit up. "Hey, that's what we need!"**

**"That's what everyone needs!" Commander Cosmos agreed.**

**"So, did Jesus give them the Holy Spirit right then and there?" Lt. Ruby asked.**

**"No," said the Commander. "Jesus was lifted up into heaven right before their eyes!"**

**"What?!" Lt. Ruby pushed back in her chair. "But, He promised them the Holy Spirit ... and then He just left and went up into heaven?"**

**"It was time for Him to go back to His Father in heaven," Commander Cosmos explained.**

**"But, what about the Holy Spirit? When will they get the Holy Spirit?!" Ruby asked impatiently.**

**Commander Cosmos pointed to the Bible. "Remember what Jesus told them?"**

**Lt. Ruby frowned. "Ooh, waiting makes me anxious!"**

**"Don't be anxious! The Bible says, 'Be anxious for nothing!'" Commander Cosmos assured. "You don't ever have to be anxious because God is with us. I think He just gave us our marching orders! Let me line up our star map with the Bible." He clicked away at the keys on the keyboard until a map of the stars appeared next to the Bible words. "Here's our mission! It's right in the Scripture. We'll start here on planet Jerusalem in the Judean solar system in the galaxy of Samaria. We have space stations all over that galaxy. They are badly in need of the truth about Jesus! Our mission is to carry God's Word to all of them, to the ends of the earth, and the universe!"**

**Lt. Ruby Starlight grinned with understanding and excitement. "Awesome!"**

**Commander Cosmos returned the smile. "Well, what are you waiting for? Get below deck! I'm initiating launch sequence now!"**

**The computer voice filled the air. "Commencing launch sequence. 10-9-8-"**

**"Yes, Sir!" Lt. Ruby saluted, as she raced to her chair for launch.**

**"And, remember Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!" Commander Cosmos called out after her as the Skylab Omega roared to life and blasted into space.**