



## SERIES OVERVIEW

In the book of Acts, Luke chronicles the continued work of Jesus through His actions and what He taught. It highlights the spread of the Gospel through the work of the apostles, particularly focusing on Peter and Paul, and emphasizes the role of the Holy Spirit in guiding and empowering the believers. Major themes include the fulfillment of Jesus' mission, the growth of the church amidst persecution, and the inclusion of Gentiles into the Christian faith.

[Book of Acts Video Overview](#)

## CONTEXT

After Jesus' ascension, the disciples returned to Jerusalem and gathered in the upper room to pray. Peter addressed the group, emphasizing the need to replace Judas Iscariot, and through prayer and casting lots, they chose Matthias to join the eleven apostles.

## THE BIG IDEA

Before working through us, God works in us. To prepare for His work, we pray and obey.

## ICE BREAKER

The Waiting Game: What's the longest line you have ever waited in and was the wait worth it?

## SCRIPTURE: Acts 1:12-26

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### WK 3: Preparing For A Move Of God

**Scripture continued:** Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. 15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, 16 "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. 17 For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." 18 (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 "For it is written in the Book of Psalms, 'May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it' and 'Let another take his office.' 21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## GROUP DISCUSSION

(Refer to week 3 of your ACTS Journal.)

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

What are you waiting on God for in your life? What is He teaching you in the waiting?

Read Acts 1:12-14 as a group. Who did Jesus pick to launch the early church? How does this encourage you that he chose ordinary people to do extraordinary things?

Interesting that they “devoted themselves to prayer” first. When faced with a challenge in life or at work, is your first response to pray or start strategizing and doing? Share a time when you stopped to pray first and waited on God to direct your next steps.

Read verses 15-19. In their waiting and praying, Peter reaches for the Word. As a group, create a list of scriptures that have meant a lot to you when you are waiting on the Lord.

Read verses 20-26. As they looked to God for a replacement for Judas, obedience was important as well as asking the Lord, who knows the hearts of all, which one he chooses. How key are praying, obedience and your heart to being chosen by God to steward a movement of God?

What is Gospel Motivated Obedience? Why is your motivation to obey important to God?

**Discussion continued:** When waiting on God, what is most difficult for you; praying first, going to scripture, or obeying Him and His Word? Why?

If God decided he was going to move in a supernatural way and needs someone to use, would he find you ready? What do you need to surrender or do to be ready?

During the response moment, Pastor James challenged us with this: As we’re waiting on God to move in this next season we must prepare ourselves to be a praying people and obedient people. What does this look like in your life and the life of our church?

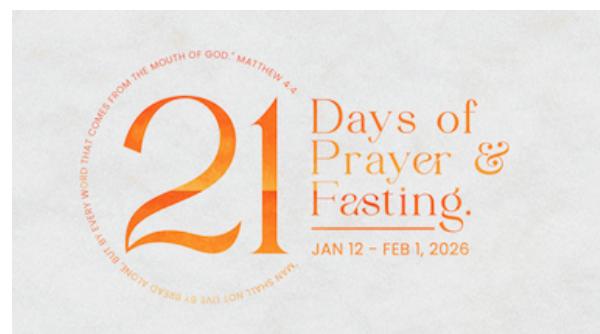
---

## PRAYER (In gender based groups)

\*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests.

\*Share with your group how they can pray for you during 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting and pray for each other.

\*Pray for our Cass White Location and whether your family is to be a part of our newest location.



Get Started [HERE](#)