

**The Book of Acts “Waiting and Restored”**  
**Acts 1:12-26**  
**May 4, 2025**

**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 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[d] 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.

How do the disciples wait?

**Acts 1:14**

14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Where do their minds and heart go?

**Acts 1:20**

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.’

From the Scriptures, Peter directs them to fill Judas’ apostle opening.

Revelation 21:12-14

12 It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— 13 on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Acts 1:21

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.”

Their hurt and God’s restorative work.

Two men and casting lots.

Proverbs 16:9, 33

The heart of man plans his way,  
but the Lord establishes his steps.

33 The lot is cast into the lap,  
but its every decision is from the Lord.

Stepping up.

No one stepped forward and covered failure more than Jesus.

### **Life Group Discussion Questions**

- What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- Acts 1:12-26 takes place between two fantastic events, the Ascension and Pentecost. Why is it so good that Bible shares with us these “in between” moments?
- Do you feel like you are between things right now? What are you waiting on? What can we learn about the how to wait from disciples in this passage?
- The disciples are thinking about Judas. Does it surprise you that this is where their thoughts are after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus? What can this show us about disappointment, hurt and broken trust?
- Describe God’s restorative activity in replacing Judas? Why would God do that? How might it show that God cares about the things we struggle with?

- How does the choosing of Matthias challenge you personally? What about being “the next man up” scares you? Inspires you? Is there a need around you that God is calling you to fill?
- End your Life Group time in “one accord” praying for things discussed.