



## “Life In the Waiting Room”

Acts 1:12-26  
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**The Big Idea:** As Jesus ascended to heaven He left His disciples behind. We see them following His **commands**, **praying** together, and seeking God’s **will**. They show us that we can live with confidence when our faith is in a God who is Sovereign and whose Word is always **true** and authoritative.

### Acts 1:12-26

1 <sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>18</sup>(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. <sup>19</sup>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.) <sup>20</sup>“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.’

<sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>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.” <sup>23</sup>And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called

Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>And they prayed and said, “You, *Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen* <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

### WHAT ARE THE MARKS OF FAITHFUL DISCIPLES?

- ✓ They **go** where Jesus says go and **do** what Jesus commands them to do.
- ✓ They know they need to strength and fellowship of **being with** other believers.
- ✓ In Christ (the relationship each one has with Him) they find spiritual **unity** that is stronger than their differences.
- ✓ They **pray** together.
- ✓ They **face** the pain and disappointments they have been through and look ahead to the future God has planned for them.
- ✓ They **seek** God’s **will** and trust the Lord to guide their decisions.

### WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT MAKING DECISIONS?

The Foundation is the Doctrine of God’s Providence  
[Joseph & his brothers; Job; Judas]

1. **Scripture:** What does the Bible say? The will of God will never contradict the Wod of God.
2. **Wisdom:** How does the Bible apply to my/our decision? What do genuinely godly people say? [Proverbs 15:22]
3. **Prayer:** Ask God show you His will. [Acts 1:24]
4. **God:** Trust His sovereignty.

There are really only  
two prayers in the universe:  
“My will be done” or “Thy will be done.”