

Series "God At Work" Book Of Acts
"Preparation For His Power"
Acts 1:12-26
Study-3

We look this evening at "The Path of Power, Preparation for His Power" as the disciples lay aside their personalities and failures and, through prayer and obedience and the Word, realign themselves with God.

Luke 11:1 "Lord, teach us to pray"

The Book of Acts reveals "God at Work"

Thought of our Passage: "God's Power Through The Holy Spirit Is Always Linked With His Word, Obedience, And Dependence Upon God."

1. Verses 12-14 First Prayer Meeting

2. Verses 15-26 First Business Meeting

1. Verses 12-14 First Prayer Meeting:

Acts 1:12 Then they (Disciples) **returned to Jerusalem** – Where Jesus had been crucified 40 days earlier. **Acts 1:4**

from the mount called Olivet, - What has just taken place was the Ascension of Jesus Christ **Acts 1:9-11**

The Ascension of Jesus is God's stamp of approval that Jesus has accomplished all. He has dominion over all things, and He has now been received into heaven to His rightful place.

Acts 1:13 When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room, - This is believed to be the same upper room used in the Last Supper.

where they were staying; The disciples were from Galilee, about 90 miles away, and were staying in this upper room.

The List of The Apostles of Jesus: Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:13-16.

(#1) Peter or **Simon Peter** or **Cephas** - "*Rock, or stone,*" was the nickname given. Peter is always mentioned first. Spokesman of the apostles. **Acts 1-12**

(#2-3) John and James (sons of Zebedee) were called "*The Sons of Thunder.*" They seem to be hot-headed. **Luke 9:52-54**

**James - The first Apostle to be martyred for the Lord. (Acts 12:2)
Mark 10:39**

John was called "*The Beloved*" and "*The apostle of love*," but he was one of the thunder boys.

(#4) Andrew was Peter's brother; He was the eager one to bring people to Jesus. He was the one who brought Peter to the Lord.

(#5) Philip - He was the questioning one; he tried to figure out how Jesus could feed the 5,000 people. **John 6:5**

(#6) Thomas – (Didymus – "Twin") Known for his courage and his doubt. He once said that all the disciples should go with Jesus to Bethany to die with him. (**John 11**).

(#7) Bartholomew - (Nathanael) – John 1:45-51 Honest but straightforward.

(#8) Matthew – (*Matthew Gospel, he calls himself a tax-gatherer*) Despised for being a tax collector for Rome. He forsook all to follow Jesus Christ.

(#9) James the son of Alphaeus – "*James the less*," who had to live in the shadow of James (the son of Zebedee). This James is only mentioned three times in the Bible, each time in connection with his mother. **Mark 15:40; 16:1 and Matthew 27:56**

(#10) Simon the Zealot – One of the fanatical Jewish patriots known as "*The Zealots*." They were known as "*Dagger Men*," or today, "*The Shooter*." He was willing to give up his national agenda to follow Jesus Christ.

(#11) Judas the son of James - Thaddaeus – "Judas son of James," called Thaddaeus because of the bad association with the name Judas. **John 14:22**

Judas Iscariot will be covered in **Verses 16-26**. The name **Judas** means "*the praise of God*," which was a popular name in his day.

The Apostles are an encouragement to us today.
1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Acts 1:14 These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, (10 Days of Prayer)

John 1:12

Their Prayer – some have suggested this could be an Acrostic:
ACTS – **A**–Adoration **C**- Confession **T**-Thanksgiving and **S**-Supplication

Word, Obedience and Prayer Go Together: Acts 1:4

Unity: one mind (one accord) - They were seeking the same thing. There was the Unity of Purpose. Obedience and prayer go together.

Persistence, Continually Devoted To Prayer: were continually devoting themselves to prayer,

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing; Colossians 4:2

along with the women, not just men, both men and women

and Mary the mother of Jesus,

and with His brothers. James and Jude, brothers of Jesus, who would write two books in the Bible.

Anytime God is truly sought, and our desire to glorify Him is present, there will not be divisions, contentions, or disunity.

2. Verses 15-26 First Business Meeting:

Acts 1:15 At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren - It was during a period of prayer that the Holy Spirit began to lead Peter.

one hundred and twenty persons - After a period of ministry of about three and a half years with multitudes following Jesus, there are about 120 believers.

Acts 1:16 Scripture And Prayer Go Together: "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David - The Holy Spirit opened the Scriptures to Peter, the Holy Spirit illumined God's Word.

concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. He is referring to **Psalm 41:9**

Acts 1:17 "For he was counted among us - Judas was one of the twelve apostles

Why does Peter speak about Judas? (There Was A Void) Because Jesus had chosen 12 Apostles, Jesus said they would sit on twelve thrones **Matthew 19:28**. There were now 11 Apostles.

Acts 1:18 (Now this man acquired a field with the price of his wickedness; (Called potter's field) Matthew 27:6-10

and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out. When they cut him down, this event took place.
Matthew 27:3-5

Acts 1:19-20 Psalms 69, 109. Peter knew the Word.

The Qualifications For The Twelve Apostles - Peter knew that it was necessary to have 12 Apostles to fill 12 thrones.

Acts 1:21-22

- 1. With Jesus From John The Baptist To The Ascension**
- 2. Witness of His Resurrection**

Two Possible Candidates: Acts 1:23 Justus, and Matthias.

Acts 1:24

Note: The Purpose of Prayer: show which one of these two You have chosen

Acts 1:25 to occupy this ministry and apostleship – Later, Paul would become an Apostle, but of the Gentiles. These would form the foundation of the NT Church.

which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." Note the human responsibility of Judas and the consequences of his decision.

Acts 1:26 And they drew lots for them, - This was common in the OT times. High Priests used Urim and Thummim – **Numbers 27:21; Proverbs 16:33**

and the lot fell to Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. God honored their request and chose His man.

Application:

1. Jesus Calls Common and Ordinary Persons. The Ordinary Then Do Extraordinary Works Because Their Dependence Is Wholly Upon God.
2. Scripture, Obedience And Prayer Go Together.
3. Anytime God Is Truly Sought, And Our Desire Is To Glorify Him, There Will Not Be Divisions, Contentions, Or Disunity.