



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

disciple:

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

- 01** Print the PDF.
-or-
- 02** Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.
-or-
- 03** Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

5 Marks of a Disciple

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



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Week of January 29th // Conversation February 4th
Wait for the Promise

This week continues our series in Acts, based on our year's theme of "Make Every Effort." Following Jesus' ascension, the apostles, along with others, return to the upstairs room to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. These verses in Acts explain how the newest apostle was chosen.

pray.

The apostles prayed and prayed about everything – before and after the ascension of Jesus – as they obeyed Jesus' commands. May you spend time in prayer asking that your understanding of the Scriptures be opened even further than ever.

observe.

Marking key words in passages of Scripture helps to draw your attention to the main ideas/themes. It causes you to slow down and absorb what you're reading.

01 Mark any reference to prayer and its variations with a triangle.

02 Mark every reference to the number twelve with a 12.

03 Draw a heart over every time brothers are mentioned.

Acts 1:12-26 (NLT)

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. ¹³ When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying.

Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). ¹⁴ They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

¹⁵ During this time, when about 120 believers were together in one place, Peter stood up and addressed them. ¹⁶ “Brothers,” he said, “the Scriptures had to be fulfilled concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. This was predicted long ago by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David. ¹⁷ Judas was one of us and shared in the ministry with us.”

¹⁸ (Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines. ¹⁹ The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name Akeldama, which means “Field of Blood.”)

²⁰ Peter continued, “This was written in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ It also says, ‘Let someone else take his position.’

²¹ “So now we must choose a replacement for Judas from among the men who were with us the entire time we were traveling with the Lord Jesus— ²² from the time he was baptized by John until the day he was taken from us. Whoever is chosen will join us as a witness of Jesus’ resurrection.”

²³ So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they all prayed, “O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen ²⁵ as an apostle to replace Judas in this ministry, for he has deserted us and gone where he belongs.” ²⁶ Then they cast lots, and Matthias was selected to become an apostle with the other eleven.

Proverbs 16:33 (NLT)

We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.

Luke 6:12-13 (NLT)

One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles.

John 7:2-5 (NLT)

²But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, ³and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! ⁴You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" ⁵For even his brothers didn't believe in him.

Revelation 21:10-12 (NLT)

¹⁰So he took me in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. ¹¹It shone with the glory of God and sparkled like a precious stone – like jasper as clear as crystal.

¹²The city wall was broad and high, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels. And the name of the twelve tribes of Israel were written on the gates.

interpret.

01 How many apostles did Jesus choose from all of his disciples?

02 Who was the apostle who replaced Judas Iscariot?

03 How was he chosen?

04 In what ways does Scripture show us the importance of the number twelve to Israel?

apply.

01 Have you ever used dice or “cast lots” to receive an answer from the Lord? If so, think back on the importance of trusting God for the answer. If not, would you ever?

02 Though Jesus and James had the same mother, Jesus was the son of God the Father Himself and not Joseph. This fact didn't fully sink into James' mind for years. It wasn't until Jesus' resurrection and His appearance to James and the disciples that James finally really understood who his half-brother was. (1 Corinthians 15:7) Think back to the moment that you realized that Jesus was your Savior. Were you as excited as James to have your eyes open to the truth of the gospel?

bring it together.

This book unites the Gospels to the Epistles. It contains many particulars concerning the apostles Peter and Paul and of the Christian church from the ascension of our Lord Jesus to the arrival of Paul at Rome, a space of about thirty years. This book of Acts contains a history of the ministry and miracles of the apostles of Christ and is a sort of journal of their actions.

This week's verses show the apostles' obedience to Jesus as He commanded them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Holy Spirit.

While waiting, Peter reminds them that what happened to Judas Iscariot was prophesied by King David and had to happen.

Peter then urges them to pray for Judas' replacement using criteria mentioned in Acts 1:21-22. They rolled the dice and God showed them that Matthias was to be the newest apostle.

There had to be twelve apostles!

connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.

 info@gtwy.church

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.

 www.gtwy.church/groups

[we value your input. click or scan here to provide feedback](#)

