



Week #2 // Acts 1:12-26

February 27, 2022

### Coming Together

- Growing up, how did your family make big decisions?
- Describe one of the best decisions you have ever made? What process did you use to make it?

### Growing in Our Understanding

- Take turns reading a couple of verses each from Acts 1:12-26.
- What was the big decision facing Jesus' early followers? Why was it so important that there be 12 Apostles/Disciples? (see Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30)
- Who was present at the meeting to decide on Judas' replacement? (see Acts 1:12-14). Anything unique about this list from your perspective?
- What was the criteria the disciples used to narrow down Judas' replacement from the larger group down to Joseph called Barsabbas or Matthias? (Acts 1:21-26)
- How ultimately did those early followers decide between Barsabbas and Mathias (Acts 1:23-26)?

### Unwrapping God's Principles

- What was the process the Disciples used in this passage to make the decision to replace Judas? What parts of their process should we repeat? What parts should we not repeat when it comes to our decision making? The use of "casting lots" as a decision-making is not repeated in the New Testament after Acts 1. Would you recommend "casting lots" as a decision-making tool today?
- In Acts 1:15, Peter stands up and leads Jesus' followers in a decision to replace Judas. Just a few weeks earlier, Peter had denied Jesus three times (Luke 22:54-62). Jesus even prophesied about Peter's denial of Him (Mt. 16:18-19). What can we learn from God's willingness to use Peter to lead the church?
- What do these verses teach us about the importance of our heart? Proverbs 4:3; Matthew 6:21; Psalm 34:18; 51:10

### Deepening Our Hearts for God

- Read Acts 1:24. What is your reaction to the truth that God knows your heart?
- What can you do to make sure God's perspective and desires are included in your decision-making process?
- Are there any decisions you are wrestling with God over right now? How can your group pray for you in these?

### Looking Ahead

Read Acts 2:1-41. What does this passage teach us about the Holy Spirit?

