

“And the Lot Fell on Matthias”

Sermon Notes

- **Mound Free, if we want to grow in Christ, there is no better place to look than the early church.**

The earliest church shows us that...

1. Followers of Jesus are _____ in _____ (v.12-14)

2. The _____ of man come from the _____ of God (v.15-20)

3. We need to _____ that the Lord is in _____ of his _____ (v.21-26)

Next Week: Acts 2:1-13 “Like a Mighty Rushing Wind”

Community Group Study Guide

For the Week of June 18th - 24th

Getting Started

1. Have you ever made a decision by casting dice? Grabbing a ticket out of a bag? Drawing a card from a deck of cards? Picking a number between 1 and 100? Or some other similar way? What was that like?

Open Your Bible to Acts 1:12-16

2. What just happened in Acts 1:6-11? What did the apostles return to Jerusalem to do? What were they waiting for?
3. Who was gathered for prayer? What is significant about the three groups of people (apostles, women, Jesus' family)? What do you remember about these people, from the gospels?
4. What does it look like to pray "with one accord"? Given recent events, what might they have been praying for?
5. What do you learn about Scripture from Peter, in 1:16? See also Peter's teaching about Scripture in 2 Peter 1:19-21.

6. What is the play on words or images (“numbered”, “allotted”, “ministry”, “field”) that Peter uses in 1:17-19, to describe what happened to Judas? Why was Judas condemned? Peter quotes 2 psalms. Read Psalm 69:22-28. How does that context connect to Peter’s message? Read Psalm 109. How does that psalm connect to Peter’s message?

7. What were the qualifications for being a witness of Jesus, alongside the 11 apostles? Why did these qualifications matter? Why was a 12th witness needed? What’s so important about that number? How can you be a witness for Christ today, even if you didn’t see what happened in the 1st century?

8. The disciples cast lots to decide between Joseph and Matthias. What is the OT background behind making decisions this way (see Proverbs 16:33; Jonah 1:7; 1 Chron 24:1-18; Lev 16:5-10; Exod 28:30; Joshua chapters 18-19; 1 Sam 10:19-21; Luke 1:9)? What are the temptations that we might face when picking people to do something with us?

9. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus? What is Jesus doing amongst his disciples, then and now today?