

Review

The book of Acts shows us.... what happens when the Holy Spirit infuses the church. And how a church functions without the Holy Spirit. In today's lesson, we would find out how a church functions without the Holy Spirit's leading when it comes to making choices.

Today's Focus: Making Choices

Did They Choose a Successor or Did They Act Before the Proper Time?

Acts 1:12-26

1) *It is possible they chose the **wrong person**.*

Acts 1:4/ John 16:13-15/ Proverbs 18:18/ Proverbs 16:33/ Galatians 1:1

2) *It is possible they chose the **right person**.*

Romans 10:3

How can we depend on the Holy Spirit to make decisions?

1 Corinthians 6:19/ 1 Corinthians 2:9-14/ 2 Timothy 3:16-17/ Proverbs 15:22; 19:20-21; 2 Chronicles 10

Some characteristics of someone to seek out for guidance and wise counsel.

Next Steps:

- ☐ Did you pray and give your life to Jesus for the first time today? Email us at pastorneil@covenantfamilychapel.org
- ☐ Help Covenant Family Chapel reach more people by sending this message and the notes to someone.
- ☐ Visit <https://www.covenantfamilychapel.org> to listen to another message or listen on WFMD 930AM Radio station in Frederick on Sundays Mornings at 9:30 am and WWNL 1080AM & 103.9FM on Fridays at 3 pm in Pittsburg (PA, OHIO, MD, and WEST VIRGINIA). Thank You

Growth Group Study Questions

For the week of February 19, 2023

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

MY EXPERIENCES

1. This weekend we learned that the apostles made a decision by 'casting lots,' similar to modern day throwing of dice. Have you ever made a decision using similar means such as flipping a coin, spinning a dial, asking Alexa to flip a coin, drawing out of a hat, etc.?
2. What is your typical decision-making process?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. From our text (Acts 1:12-26) this weekend, the apostles had not yet received the Holy Spirit empowerment to help them make their decisions, but prayer did play a role. Today as followers of Jesus, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit to help guide us. As you read the verses below, what do you observe (circle, highlight, underline) from Jesus as He prepared to make some important decisions? **Remember the Holy Spirit was already in Jesus.**

Luke 6:12-16

12 At that time Jesus went off to a mountain to pray, and he spent the night praying to God. **13** The next morning, Jesus called his followers to him and chose twelve of them, whom he named apostles: **14** Simon (Jesus named him Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, **15** Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon (called the Zealot), **16** Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who later turned Jesus over to his enemies.

Luke 22:39-44

39 Jesus left the city and went to the Mount of Olives, as he often did, and his followers went with him. **40** When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray for strength against temptation." **41** Then Jesus went about a stone's throw away from them. He kneeled down and prayed, **42** "Father, if you are willing, take away this cup[a] of suffering. But do what you want, not what I want." **43** Then an angel from heaven appeared to him to strengthen him. **44** Being full of pain, Jesus prayed even harder. His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

2. Some of the things we can do to help us make wise choices in our decision-making process are: Giving Jesus full control of our lives, applying Scripture, seeking wise counsel, and connecting with the Holy Spirit through prayer. Have any of these things impacted your ability to make a wise decision? Share your experience?

3. How do we go about seeking wise counsel when we are not clear of the Holy Spirit's leading?

HOMEWORK

Which point from this weekend's message or Growth Group discussion is most important for you to remember?

PRAYER REQUESTS

THE ACTS CHALLENGE

Do you want to get more out of Acts than just hearing it during the Sunday Morning Services? There are 28 chapters in Acts. Try reading or listening to a chapter a day for 28 days and see how it will grow your understanding in our series on the Book of Acts—Holy Spirit Infused Church.



The Story:

Did They Choose A Successor or Jump The Gun?

Acts 1:12-26

- Why I think they chose the **WRONG GUY**.
Acts 1:4/ John 16:13-15/ Proverbs 18:18 & 16:33/ Galatians 1:1
- Why I could be **WRONG**.
- Either way, this is what we need to keep in mind:
*Acts isn't a story about **SUPERSTAR** Christians,
it's a story about **JESUS** building His **CHURCH**.*

WHY I'M AN OPTIMIST

- Jesus said **HE** would **BUILD HIS CHURCH**.
Matthew 16:18
- Jesus promised that the **GATES** of Hell would not **PREVAIL**.
Matthew 16:18
- God always draws **STRAIGHT LINES** with **CROOKED STICKS**.
1 Kings 3

- Just take the next step of **OBEDIENCE**. God will **USE IT**.
Proverbs 16:9/ James 1:22

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Growth Group Study Questions

For the week of February 12, 2023

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Who is a witness in the biblical sense?
2. Why should a witness be Holy Spirit Filled and Holy Spirit Directed?
3. What is the main work of a witness?
4. Read Acts 7 and discuss how Stephen kept to the point despite other topics in the discussion.

HOMEWORK

Witness to one person before the end of February.

Please pray and ask the Holy Spirit to set you up with an opportunity.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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