

WEEK 2: PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

DAY 1: HE BRINGS UNDERSTANDING AND POWER

Acts 1:1-8

1. What do you do when an important person is coming? You prepare for him, don't you? You prepare the house. You prepare food. The Holy Spirit is the important person in Acts. The disciples prepared for his coming. This week we will learn about this. We hope you enjoy the lessons.

Write three ways in which the Holy Spirit is different from other spirits.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

2. The Holy Spirit is different because he is God. He is also good. And he has power over other spirits. Jesus told the disciples how to prepare for his coming. He said he would be with them through the Holy Spirit. Let us learn it this way.

- (1) Jesus said the disciples would understand and have power by waiting for the Holy Spirit.
- (2) Jesus is with us now through the Holy Spirit.

Take your Bible now and begin reading the book of Acts. Read Acts 1:1 to 8. Did Jesus say the disciples should go to the end of the earth right away?

3. They should not go out right away. They should wait for something. They were not ready yet for all the work he had given them. They needed help. They still did not understand. They asked Jesus a question about the Kingdom.

Acts 1:6:

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Who needed more understanding and power? _____

4. The disciples needed this. They still did not understand about the kingdom. They expected Jesus to drive out the Romans and become king of Israel. Jesus was talking again about the kingdom. But they did not understand.

Acts 1:3:

To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God.

Who told the disciples to wait for understanding and power from the Holy Spirit?

5. Jesus told them this. He knew they did not fully understand his suffering. They did not understand about his kingdom. But soon they would have more understanding and power.

Acts 1:4:

And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do in Jerusalem until they received the Holy Spirit?

6. He told them to wait. They should wait in Jerusalem. Jesus was a good teacher. He did not scold the disciples when they asked questions. He taught them many things after he rose from the dead. But they needed more help. Jesus could not stay with them forever in his body. He would send someone to live inside them.

Whom should the disciples wait for in order to receive understanding and power?

7. It was the Holy Spirit. The disciples were asking about something which would happen later. This was not the question Jesus wanted them to ask now. He wanted them to ask what they should be doing. This was more important than what would happen later.

Acts 1:7-8:

he said to them, "It is not for you to know time or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses.

If the disciples waited, what would they have from the Holy Spirit? _____

8. They would have power. They would also have understanding. They would understand what they should be doing. They would have power to do it. The disciples had seen Jesus do many good works. They had seen him die. They had seen him after he rose from the dead. They should witness about this good news.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do to get understanding and power for witness?

9. They should wait for the Holy Spirit. They did wait for him. And the Holy Spirit came. He came to be in them. He is in us today as we let him rule. The disciples asked Jesus something they did not understand. Jesus helped them. He also said the Holy Spirit would give them understanding.

Do we have help today for the things we do not understand? _____

10. We have help today. The Holy Spirit helps us. He helps us understand the Bible as we read it. When we come to difficult parts we can pray for help to understand. Sometimes the Holy Spirit teaches us through things which happen. Perhaps you have heard someone say, "Now I understand this verse. The Holy Spirit taught me through what happened to me." He may also teach us through another Christian. The Holy Spirit has given that person understanding in something. That person can share his understanding with you.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do to get understanding and power for witnessing?

11. He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit. Today we too can have the help of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is still with us through the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to earth in a body. He was called Emmanuel which means "God with us". Then Jesus left the earth again.

When Jesus left the disciples, do you think he would still be with them?

12. Jesus would still be with them. The Holy Spirit did not come until the body of Jesus left the earth. The disciples did not need the Holy Spirit when Jesus was with them. They could see Jesus. They could ask him questions. He could help and teach them. But 40 days after Jesus rose from the dead, he left them. He went back to his Father.

Acts 1:9:

And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

Through whom would Jesus still be with them? _____

13. He would be with them through the Holy Spirit. He had promised that he would come to them. Some people do not keep their promises. But the disciples knew that Jesus would do as he said. He had explained about the Holy Spirit many times. The promises were for the disciples and for us.

John 14:18:

I will not leave you desolate (or alone); I will come to you.

Who is with us now through the Holy Spirit? _____

14. Jesus left the earth in his body. After this he did not come back in his body. He came in a different way. He came through the Holy Spirit. The disciples saw that he was still with them. They saw that Jesus lived in their hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Through the Holy Spirit, who is Jesus with today? _____

15. Jesus is with us. Sometimes we think we would have liked to live with Jesus on earth. We would have liked to talk with him and see him work. But we have him with us in a more wonderful way now. We have him with us and in us.

In what way is Jesus with us now? _____

16. He is with us through the Holy Spirit.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do to get understanding and power for witnessing?

17. He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit. Pastor Sulai spends much time reading his Bible. Sometimes there are things he does not understand. He knows that Jesus is with him through the Holy Spirit. He prays that he may understand God's word. He does not get discouraged if he does not understand quickly. He waits for the Holy Spirit to show him. Sometimes this happens through his own thoughts or through something which happens to him. Sometimes it is through the help of another Christian. Sometimes it is through a Christian book.

What about you? Do you wait for the Holy Spirit to show you things?

If Pastor Sulai knew you very well, what do you think he would say to you to help you?

18. Be ready to talk about this in class.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to do to get understanding and power for witnessing?

In what way is Jesus with us now?

WEEK 2: PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

DAY 2: THE PROMISE OF POWER

Acts 1:8:

1. This week we are learning how the disciples prepared. They prepared to receive understanding and power.

What did Jesus say the disciples should do to get understanding and power for witnessing?

In what way is Jesus with us now? _____

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2. Jesus said they should wait for the Holy Spirit. Jesus is with us now through the Holy Spirit.

Last week we learned that Acts 1:8 is an important verse. It tells us what Acts is about. It is also a wonderful promise which Jesus gave as he left the earth. Today we will memorise this verse.

Acts 1:8: But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.

Find Acts 1:8 in your Bible and read it. To whom was Jesus speaking when he gave this promise?

=====

3. He was speaking to his disciples. His chosen disciples were sometimes called apostles. This is how Luke spoke of them when he wrote the book of Acts.

Acts 1:2:

he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.

Jesus was speaking to the apostles. But we know that he was also speaking to us. He told them first to witness in Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the place where the disciples were. They should witness everywhere, but they should start where they were. Jerusalem is like the town or village where you live.

Write the name of the town or village where you should begin witnessing.

=====

4. You should have written the name of your home town or village. But Jesus said we should not only witness at home. He said the disciples should go out from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria. In the same way, we should not witness in our own town only. We should take the good news through all our country. This is the part which is under our government. Judea and Samaria are like our country.

You should begin witnessing around your home, but you should go on. Write the name of the next place you should witness.

5. You should have written the name of a country like Nigeria, Zambia, or Kenya. The disciples were to witness in Judea and Samaria. But the Jews hated the people of Samaria. They are like people we do not like. Perhaps you remember what happened to the prophet Jonah. He refused to go to Nineveh and preach. He did not want to go to people who were his enemies. Jesus said we should witness to people we do not like. He said the Holy Spirit will give us power to witness to them.

Look into your own heart now. Try to be honest. Are there some people you would not like to witness to?

Perhaps as you thought about this, you had to write Yes. Will you pray about this?

6. We should witness at home and in our country. The Holy Spirit also sends us to the end of the earth. This means the rest of the world outside our country. It is not enough to witness to our own people. Remember the words of Jesus.

Matthew 28:19:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.

Do you think it is possible for you yourself to witness outside your country?

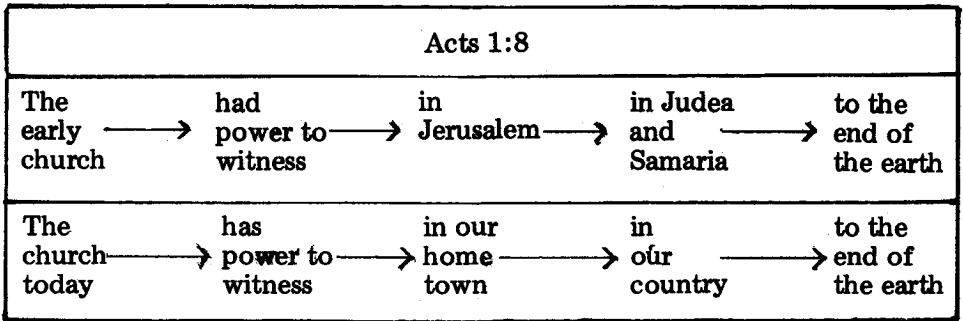
7. Perhaps you do not see any way to go out now. But God wants some to go to the ends of the earth. Some day he may open the way for you to go. Or he may let you help to send another witness. Acts 1:8 gives God's plan for a growing witness.

Acts 1:8:

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.

Take time to memorise this verse now. Read it three times. Try to say it without looking at it. Read it again. When you can say it, write it here.

8. This is God's plan for his church to grow. Christians should witness everywhere. We should start where we are. We have someone to give us power.



From Acts 1:8, who gives power to witness? _____

9. The Holy Spirit gives power. There are many different ways for Christians to witness at home. They can live true Christian lives. They can speak to their friends about Christ. They can give Christian papers and books to people.

Write one way you have witnessed where you live. _____

10. Be ready to tell your answer in class. We can also witness where we live through the church. The church has many ways to witness for Christ. It witnesses by preaching. It witnesses by teaching the Bible. It witnesses by helping people in the name of Jesus. You can witness at home by helping your church to witness. You can preach or teach. You can give money to help your church witness. You can pray for the work of your church.

Write one way you witness through the church where you are. _____

11. We also want to obey Jesus and witness in our country. You can witness when you take journeys in your country. Your church can send you to preach. It can send evangelists to preach in other parts. It can send missionaries to live in other parts of your country. Your church can help radio programmes that speak all over the country.

Write one way you and your church are witnessing in other parts of your country.

12. We will hear your answer in class. Jesus also said to witness in other countries of the world. This can be done through missionaries or evangelists. Radio programs can be sent to other countries. Groups can prepare Bibles in different languages.

Perhaps you think you do not have to do this. Your church may be very small. But Jesus said he would give us power to do it. Your church can work together with other churches. Together you can witness in other countries.

Does your church help anyone witness outside your country? _____

What wonderful promise did Jesus give us as he left the earth? Answer by saying Acts 1:8 to yourself.

13. Some Christians do not know how to witness. Some churches do nothing about this work. They do not know how to witness in their own country or other countries. They have not been taught to tell others the good news. Some pastors do not think much about this. They are not troubled about lost people. But Jesus told us to go and witness. We must obey his command.

Will you try to teach your church to witness in their town, their country, and other countries?

14. We will talk about this together.

What wonderful promise did Jesus give us as he left the earth? Answer by writing Acts 1:8:

WEEK 2: PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

DAY 3: JESUS WILL COME AGAIN AS HE WENT

Acts 1:9-11

1. Yesterday we saw God's plan for his church to grow.

What wonderful promise did Jesus give us as he left the earth? Answer by saying Acts 1:8 to yourself.

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2. Open your Bible to see if you said the verse right. Leave your Bible open. Jesus knew that the disciples would witness all over the world. Because of this, there would be many believers. The church would begin and grow. In Acts we see how Jesus worked through the Holy Spirit to begin the church. Today let us learn:

- (1) After the body of Christ was taken into heaven, the church became the body of Christ on earth.
- (2) From Acts 1:11, Jesus will return as he went into heaven.

In your Bible now read Acts 1:9 to 11. From verse 9, how did the body of Jesus leave the earth?

=====

3. A cloud took Jesus out of their sight. Jesus wanted the disciples to see him go. He wanted them to know he was gone. He would not be coming to them in his body now. This would be hard for them to understand. But they would be his body on earth now!

Acts 1:10:

And while they were gazing (or looking) into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes.

Where did the body of Christ go, so that the church would be his body now?

=====

4. The verse says that he went into heaven. We know that he went to his Father. Paul later wrote about this.

Ephesians 1:20,22-23:

he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places ... and has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body.

From these verses, what is Christ's body now? _____

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5. The church is Christ's body now. Christ once had the body of a man. But this body left the earth. Now his body is the church. Jesus did not speak much about the church. The church did not really begin until Jesus left the earth. But Jesus said that the church would begin and grow.

Matthew 16:18:

I will build my church and the powers of death will not prevail against it.

Whose church is his body? _____

6. Christ's church is his body. He called it "my church". It is those who believe him and follow him.

I Corinthians 12:27:

Now you are the body of Christ and individually (or one by one) members of it.

What part of Christ are we who are the church? _____

7. We are the body of Christ. We are the church. When the body of Christ left the earth, the church became his body. The book of Acts tells what Jesus did through the Holy Spirit. It is the story of the church. We first read of the church in chapter 2.

Acts 2:47:

And the Lord added to their number (or to the church) day by day those who were being saved.

Where did Christ leave the church so it could work as his body? _____

8. He left the church on earth.

Acts 9:31:

So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was built up; and walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit it was multiplied.

After the body of Christ was taken into heaven, what became the body of Christ on earth?

9. The church became the body of Christ. All the followers of Jesus would be his body. The disciples were surprised to see the body of Jesus going up. They did not know what to think.

Acts 1:10:

And while they were gazing (or looking) into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes.

What did the disciples do as Jesus went up? _____

10. They just looked at him. They saw him going. They did not know what to do. Perhaps they would have stood there for a long time. But two men came to talk to them. The men were in white clothes. Perhaps they were angels.

Acts 1:11:

and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

What will Jesus do some day just as he went? _____

11. He will come. He will return. He will come to take his body, the church. It is a great help to us to know this. We have these words right in the beginning of the book of Acts. They are found in Acts 1:11. The men told the disciples how Jesus will return.

Acts 1:11:

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

From Acts 1:11, how will Jesus return? _____

12. Jesus will return as he went. Some people say Jesus has already returned. They say no one saw him return. They say he is here now. But the Apostles knew that Jesus will return as he went.

Where in Acts do we read that Jesus will return as he went? _____

13. We find these words in Acts 1:11. While the disciples were still looking up, the men came to talk to them. They asked why the disciples were standing there. They told the disciples that Jesus will return.

From Acts 1:11, how will Jesus return? _____

14. Jesus will return as he went. We will see him. He will come in clouds. We will meet him in the air.

Matthew 24:30:

then will appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

After the body of Christ was taken into heaven, what became the body of Christ on earth?

15. The church became the body of Christ on earth.

From Acts 1:11, how will Jesus return? _____

16. He will return as he went. We see that there are many important things in the first chapter of Acts. Jesus was preparing his disciples to be strong. They would be his body now. They would do his work. They must be ready for his return.

We today are still the body of Christ. When people look at us they should be able to see Christ. For some people, that is all they ever see of Christ.

Do people see the body of Christ in a good way when they look at your church?

17. Be ready to talk about this in class.

After the body of Christ was taken into heaven, what became the body of Christ on earth?

From Acts 1:11, how will Jesus return? _____

WEEK 2: PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DAY 4: THE DISCIPLES BELIEVED, OBEYED AND PRAYED
Acts 1:12-14

1. After the body of Christ was taken into heaven, what became the body of Christ on earth?

From Acts 1:11, how will Jesus return ? _____

2. After Christ was taken into heaven, the church became his body. Jesus will return as he went into heaven. Before Jesus went, he told the disciples what to do. He said they should wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit. Today we will learn three things the disciples did to prepare for the Holy Spirit.

- (1) They believed.
- (2) They obeyed.
- (3) They prayed.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 1:12 to 14. Did the disciples go back home to Galilee after Jesus left them?

3. They did not go to Galilee. They did not go back to their old work. They went to Jerusalem as Jesus told them to. They stayed in Jerusalem. They waited together in Jerusalem.

Do you think the disciples believed what Jesus said about the coming of the Holy Spirit?

4. I think they believed him. If they had not believed, they would not have gone to Jerusalem. They would not have waited. They would have gone back to their homes. Or they would have hurried out to start preaching. But Jesus knew his disciples. He knew they needed more power. They needed understanding. He told them these things would be give to them.

Whom did the disciples believe would come if they waited in Jerusalem?

5. They believed the Holy Spirit would come. They believed he would give them power. Jesus had promised them this. They believed his words. They expected something to happen.

When the disciples believed, obeyed, and prayed, what were they preparing for?

6. They were preparing for the coming of the Holy Spirit. We Christians must believe God for power to do his work. When we have faith, we receive power from the Holy Spirit. Some Christians are weak. They do not expect power from God. They work for God, but there is little fruit. They do not expect much to happen in the Christian life.

What is the first thing the disciples did to prepare for the Holy Spirit?

(1) _____

(2) They obeyed.

(3) They prayed.

7. The first way they prepared was: They believed. Then they also obeyed. This was the second thing they did to prepare. They did what Jesus told them to do. They did not go home.

Acts 1:12:

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet.

What command of Jesus did they obey? _____

8. They went to Jerusalem. They waited there. All 11 disciples were there together. They were preparing for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:13:

and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the Son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James.

In order to prepare for the Holy Spirit what did they do to Jesus' commands?

9. They obeyed them. They also believed them. As a pastor or church worker you should expect power in your work. You should expect fruit from your preaching or teaching. Jesus has promised you too the power of the Holy Spirit. If you believe and obey, you can have power. A pastor once said this after he preached, "I do not mind if no one repents after I preach. If I get my money for preaching, I am all right." This pastor was not like the disciples.

What is the first thing the disciples did to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

- (1) _____
- (2) They obeyed.
- (3) They prayed.

10. First they believed what Jesus promised them. He had promised not to leave them alone. They went to Jerusalem. They waited in Jerusalem for ten days. They did not get tired after two or three days. They did not decide to leave because nothing happened right away.

What is the second thing the disciples did to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

- (1) They believed.
- (2) _____
- (3) They prayed.

11. The disciples obeyed. They did what Jesus told them. They prepared to receive the Holy Spirit. They also did something else to prepare for his coming.

Acts 1:14:

All these with one accord devoted (or gave) themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

From this verse, what did they do while they waited in Jerusalem? _____

12. They prayed while they were waiting. In writing about it, Luke shows that they prayed hard. Look at this verse again.

Acts 1:14:

All these with one accord devoted (or gave) themselves to prayer.

In the verse, draw a line around **All** to show that everyone was praying. Draw a line around **the words one accord** to show that they agreed together. Draw a line around **devoted** to show that they gave themselves to this preparation.

13. The disciples were doing something while they waited for the Holy Spirit. Later we read of another time when they needed help.

Acts 4:31:

And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.

What did they do just before they were filled with the Holy Spirit?

14. They prayed. This was the third thing they did to prepare for the Holy Spirit. Every time the disciples prayed, something good happened. The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost after they prayed. They were filled with the Holy Spirit after they prayed. When God's people pray faithfully, good things happen.

What lesson do you think your church can learn from this? _____

15. Perhaps your church needs to pray more. They can ask for power to witness for Christ. They can ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit. To be full of the Holy Spirit means to be ruled by him in everything. This is what we want in our churches.

What was the third thing the disciples did to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

(1) They believed.

(2) They obeyed.

(3) _____

16. The disciples prayed. All of them gave themselves to prayer. Jesus our Lord prayed always. The disciples prayed earnestly. Our good pastors of years past prayed faithfully.

As a pastor or church worker you need the power of the Holy Spirit. You need his help in your work. You cannot do anything without him. He wants to rule in everything you do.

What things did the disciples do to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) They prayed.

17. First they believed. They believed what Jesus promised. Then they obeyed. They obeyed what Jesus said.

What is the third thing they did to prepare for the Holy Spirit? _____

18. They also prayed. The whole church came together to pray. This helped them understand each other. It helped them grow stronger. It helped them be united with each other. It helped them be united with God.

It is good for churches to come together to pray. In most churches today, there is a time for prayer meeting.

Do many or few people come for prayer meeting in your church? _____

Have you led your people to believe that prayer is important? _____

19. Let us talk about this in class.

What three things did the disciples do to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

WEEK 2: PREPARING FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

DAY 5: THEY PUT SOMEONE ELSE IN JUDAS' PLACE

Acts 1:15-26

1. This week we have seen how the disciples prepared. They were getting ready for the Holy Spirit. Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem. He said they would receive power to witness. After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the church became his body.

What three things did the disciples do to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit?

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

2. They believed, they obeyed, and they prayed. They believed what Jesus said. They did what he told them. They prayed together earnestly. They also did something else while they waited. They thought about the place which Judas had. Now Judas was no longer with them. We will learn two things about this.

(1) While they waited, the disciples put another disciple in Judas' place.

(2) After this, they waited for the Holy Spirit to choose the leaders.

Take your Bible now and read Acts 1:15 to 26. Read verse 20 again. From the prophecies, what should happen to the place of Judas?

3. Someone else should take his place. Peter seemed to be the leader of the brethren who were waiting in the upper room. There were 120 of them meeting together. Peter stood and talked to them.

Acts 1:16:

Brethren, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David, concerning Judas who was guide to those who arrested Jesus.

Into whose place did the disciples decide to put someone else? _____

4. It was Judas' place. The disciples saw that prophecy had been fulfilled. Judas had betrayed Jesus. Later he was sorry. He tried to give the money back to the priests, but they would not take it. He threw the money down in the temple. Matthew tells us that the priests used the money to buy a field to bury strangers. But Judas went and hanged himself.

What group of people decided to put another disciple in Judas' place?

5. It was the disciples who did this. They were together in Jerusalem. They were together in an upper room. They were believing, obeying, and praying.

What were the disciples waiting for in Jerusalem when they put another disciple in Judas' place?

6. They were waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit. They were giving themselves to prayer. They were obeying the command of Jesus. They had not yet gone out to witness to the world. They were getting ready for the Holy Spirit. Peter thought they should put another disciple in Judas' place. He said it should be someone who was with Jesus from the beginning.

Acts 1:23:

And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

How did they begin to choose the new man?

7. They put forward two men. Their names were Joseph and Matthias. They prayed and asked God to help them. Then they cast lots for the two men. We do not know just how they cast lots. It does not seem that they were voting. Casting lots was the way other people made decisions. We remember that the soldiers cast lots for Jesus' clothes. It seems this was the best way the disciples knew. They cast lots and the lot fell on Matthias.

What would Matthias do?

8. Matthias would take the place of Judas. Jesus had chosen twelve special disciples. Later these men were called apostles. Judas did not keep on following Jesus. He was no longer living. He could not do the work of an apostle.

What did the disciples do about Judas while they waited in Jerusalem?

9. They put another disciple in his place. The disciples wanted to do the right thing. They wanted twelve apostles to do the work of Jesus. Perhaps it was right for them to do what they did. Or perhaps they should have waited for the Holy Spirit to choose another apostle. Some people think that Paul was the new Apostle whom the Holy Spirit chose.

Do you think the disciples did right to put another disciple in the place of Judas?

10. Be ready to talk about this in class. Later we see that workers were chosen in a different way.

Acts 13:2:

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Who chose Paul and Barnabas to work for God at this time?

11. The Holy Spirit chose them. The Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul." We do not know how the Holy Spirit said this. Perhaps he said it through a prophecy given to one of the disciples. Perhaps the Holy Spirit spoke in the hearts of all the believers as they prayed. Perhaps one church leader heard the Holy Spirit and all the rest agreed that this was right.

Did they cast lots at this time to find the ones chosen? _____

12. They did not cast lots. They had a better way.

Through whom did they find out what to do? _____

13. They found what to do through the Holy Spirit. After the Holy Spirit came, they did not cast lots as the Romans did. The Holy Spirit became their leader. Jesus had told them he would be their comforter and guide. He would teach them. They went to Jerusalem to wait for him as Jesus said.

What did the disciples do about Judas while they waited in Jerusalem?

14. They put another disciple in his place. This was before the Holy Spirit came.

Through whom did they find what to do after this? _____

15. They found out what to do through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit still wants to lead us today. We must learn how to find God's will. We must learn how to hear the voice of the Spirit. The disciples were worshiping and fasting when the Holy Spirit chose Barnabas and Saul. Churches today have many ways of choosing new workers.

How does your church choose workers? _____

Do you think there might be a better way to do it? _____

If you wrote Yes, write what the better way might be. _____

16. Talk about this together in class.

What did the disciples do about Judas while they waited in Jerusalem?

Through whom did they find what to do after this? _____
