



Days of Preparation in Prayer **(Acts 1:12-26)**

Study Notes Handout: Week Three

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...

- Acts 1:8

We would not give a dime to a missionary that went to a culture, and put up a sign that said - 'Come and see us if you want God.' - yet we do it as a default plan! - Reggie MacNeil

I. Lifeway Research on Canadian Churches:

II. Basic truths on being a Fruitful Witness: (cf. Acts 1:8).

- i. God was there first - not you.
- ii. God has others doing His work - not just you.
- iii. God does His work over time - not all at once.
- iv. God asks us to be faithful - not fruitful.
- v. God asks us to witness out of love & joy - not fear or guilt.

III. Three Things to do while Waiting for the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:12 - 26)

- i. Be Joined Together in Fellowship (vs. 12 - 17)
- ii. Be Constant in Prayer (vs. 14)
- iii. Be Led by the Holy Spirit (vs. 15 - 26)

Questions for Reflection / Discussion:

- i. According to Lifeway Research most Christians in Canada do not share their faith or witness. What do you believe are the primary reasons for this? Discuss.
- ii. Which of the five points on being a fruitful witness was most relevant for you? What other points would you want to add to this list? Discuss.
- iii. The people that formed the first church were from a cross-section of society whose lives had been touched by Jesus and reclaimed by His grace. What can we learn about how to do church from them? How are the challenges we face different from theirs, or the same?



Personal Study Notes

- ²³ So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.
- ²⁴ Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen
- ²⁵ to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."
- ²⁶ Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

Acts 1:23-26

Preparation in the Upper Room (1:12-14)

Restoration of the Apostolic Circle

Judas`s Defection (1:15-20a)

Matthias`s installation (1:20b-26)

Personal Prayer Points from this Passage:

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

1)

2)