

# CHOOSING GOD'S CHOSEN

Lessons from the Replacement of Judas, Acts 1:12-26

*Wednesday, March 20, 2024*

**Aim:** The aim of this Bible study is to explore Acts 1:12-26 and draw lessons on the process of choosing Matthias as a replacement for Judas Iscariot among the apostles. Participants will understand the importance of prayer, Scripture, and discernment in making significant decisions in the life of the church.

## **Introduction:**

Begin the study with prayer, asking for God's guidance and illumination of the Scriptures.

## **Reading and Context:**

Read Acts 1:12-26 aloud. Provide some context for the passage by briefly summarizing the events leading up to this moment, including Jesus' ascension and the disciples' return to Jerusalem.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. Why do you think it was important for the disciples to return to Jerusalem and gather in the upper room?
3. How do you think the disciples felt in this period of waiting and uncertainty?
4. What do you think motivated Peter to address the group regarding the need to replace Judas?
5. Reflecting on verses 20-22, why was it necessary for a replacement to be chosen for Judas?
6. What role did Scripture play in the decision-making process? Why was it important for the fulfillment of prophecy?
7. Discuss the significance of prayer in the decision-making process, especially in verses 24-25.
8. What can we learn from the method used to choose between Joseph called Barsabbas and Matthias? (verses 26)
9. How might this passage inform our understanding of decision-making in the life of the church today?

## **Reflection/Application:**

1. Share about a time when you had to make a significant decision in your life or in the life of your church. How did prayer and Scripture influence your decision-making process?
2. Discuss ways in which your church community can cultivate a culture of prayer and discernment in decision-making.

3. Reflect on the importance of unity among believers, as seen in the disciples' gathering together in one accord (verse 14). How can we strive for unity in our churches today?
4. Consider the significance of Matthias being chosen to fill Judas' place. How might God be calling you to step into a specific role or ministry within your church?

**Conclusion:**

Close the study with a time of prayer, asking for God's wisdom and guidance in all decisions, both individually and collectively as a church. Thank God for the example of the early disciples and their commitment to prayer, Scripture, and unity in making important decisions.