

# Home Bible Studies

## *Acts*

Study #2 Acts 1:12-26

### Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

#### **KEY:**

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>A. (READ)</b>         | What does it say?        |
| <b>B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)</b> | What does it mean?       |
| <b>C. (REFLECT)</b>      | What does it mean to me? |

**12.** *Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city.*

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The disciples obeyed Jesus and returned the one kilometer to Jerusalem.

**C. (REFLECT)** It was likely challenging to walk from the Mount of Olives, through the Kidron Valley, past the Garden of Gethsemane, & tomb, & Golgotha Hill to Mount Zion (Jerusalem. 1) Why would it be difficult (emotionally) for the disciples? 2) What did they do wrong in Gethsemane, just a few months before? (Mark 14:50)

**13.** *When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.*

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** There were now eleven disciples. Who was missing? Why?

**C. (REFLECT)** Judas had betrayed Jesus and then killed himself. Peter had denied Jesus and then repented. 1) Can you tell of a time when someone did something to you and did not apologize? (Or even tell an example of how a person might do such a thing). 2) Tell of a time when someone did something to you and did apologize.

**14. *They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The group were in fellowship and in prayer constantly with other friends, Mary, brothers of Jesus...

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) Do you pray and study the Bible with family? 2) Do you study with friends? 3) How often? 4) When?

**15. *In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty)***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Peter spoke among 120 people in the Upper Room.

**C. (REFLECT)** Peter had denied Jesus. Yet Peter repented & Jesus forgave Peter. Peter was able to stand up for Jesus. He was not afraid anymore. Where is it most difficult to “stand up” to tell others about Jesus?

**16. *and said, “Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Peter was led by God with wisdom to know what to do.

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) Do you feel more comfortable studying the Old Testament or the New Testament? 2) How can you be sure that you are studying both?

**17. *He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.”***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Judas was one of the 12 disciples, under the daily teaching of Jesus, for three years.

**C. (REFLECT)** “A friend in need is a friend indeed.” What do you think was the reason for Judas Iscariot betraying Jesus for 30 pieces of silver?

**18. (With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out.**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Judas hanged himself. But the branch broke from which the rope was tied. His corpse had bloated & his body burst open when it hit the ground. Judas could not have bought the field because he was dead. But since the priests bought the field with Judas’ “blood money” & since the priests said “we cannot spend the money because it belongs to Judas”, then Judas, after his death, bought the field since it was his money.

**C. (REFLECT)** These are explanations of two supposedly contradicting passages in the Bible. What passage of Scripture is hard for you to understand?

**19. Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** All Jerusalem heard how Judas had died. They called the field, “Akeldama” which is Aramaic for “Field of Blood”. It was formerly called the “Potter’s Field”.

**C. (REFLECT)** Be aware that no matter what people think of you (painter, dad, friendly, good looking), it can change overnight by doing something wrong. Name ten possible occupations or pastimes/hobbies/lifestyles that, if people heard of it/them, could change drastically due to people’s opinions of you.

**20. “For,” said Peter, “it is written in the Book of Psalms: ‘May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,’ and, ‘May another take his place of leadership.’**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Two points Peter brought out, 1) Psalm 69:25 Judas left the club. 2) Psalm 109:8 Judas needed to be replaced.

**C. (REFLECT)** Have you ever attended a family reunion just after a family member has died? Tell about it and how you recovered the loss over time.

**21. *Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us,***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Choose a replacement. The first prerequisite (qualification) for a replacement was to be a member of the group (more than just 12 had followed Jesus through those three years).

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) Are you “in the group”? 2) Are you a believer in Jesus? 3) Please take a moment now & pray aloud & have anybody who wants to become a believer in Jesus to pray: *“Dear Jesus, I am sorry I have sinned. I know you died on the cross to pay for my sins. Please wash my sins away by your blood and make me clean. Please make me a child of God and I promise to live for You for the rest of my life.”*

**22. *beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** One of the “lesser disciples” was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot.

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) If you were chosen to teach Sunday School at church, would you do it? 2) What position would you feel most comfortable in doing at church?

**23. *So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.***

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** Two were nominated: Barsabbas (Justus) and Matthias.

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) Have you every been elected to a position (in a club, civic group, homeowners’ association, etc.)? 2) What were your responsibilities? 3) How were you elected? 4) Closed ballot? 5) Show of hands?

**24. Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The group asked God to show them who was to replace Judas.

**C. (REFLECT)** The justification they gave to God in asking Him to guide them was that God knows a person’s heart. When we are choosing a husband or wife, they may give the impression on the outside that they love us, but only God knows the heart. How could we ask God to give us wisdom in a mate to choose, since He knows their heart?

**25. to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.”**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The disciples said that Judas “went where He belongs”.

**C. (REFLECT)** 1) What qualified Judas to “belong” in Hell? 2) Who else “belongs” in Hell? 3) Who “belongs” in Heaven?

**26. Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.**

**A. (READ)**

**B. (RE-EMPHASIZE)** The sign they used was two “holy dice”.

**C. (REFLECT)** When God gives clear direction, it is often difficult to follow the choice He has made clear, (if we were hoping that He would clarify the opposite choice as the right one). Yet He is always right. What are some of the right follow-up choices we can make in following God’s decision, even if we do not prefer it?