

ACTS – 13th Disciple

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Acts 1:13-26

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Reflection & Discussion Questions

It is hard to be a Gospel centered, loving person who is deeply suspicious and untrusting

Suspicion and distrust lead us away from Kingdom values.

*What factors do you think lead to trust being at an all-time low?

*Why is trust important in relation to living out Kingdom values?

*How have you struggled with trust or connection?

The impulse of the first followers was: let's stick together and listen to God together

This is a go-to of the early church throughout the entire book of Acts.

Read and discuss Acts 1:12-14(NIV)

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. 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. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

*What do these verses say about the early believers?

*What can we learn from the first followers' relationships?

*What can the passage teach us about prayer?

Find the right people to stick to

Develop an inner circle of people who care more about Jesus and the Kingdom of God than anything else.

Read and discuss Acts 1:21-26(NIV)

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, 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." ²³ So they nominated 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.

*What can these verses say about the kind of people we should stick to?

*How have you found people to be this inner circle in your own life? What qualities should we be looking for?

*What makes these people different than just a friend?

Seek God together

Trust God to seek Him with others even when we might choose to walk away.

*Who do you know that helps you see Jesus more clearly?

*When is a time that seeking God with others has unlocked the movement of God in your life?

*Are you prompted to take any steps in sticking together or seeking God with others right now?