



Growth Group Discussion Questions for Acts 1:15-26
Week of May 5-8, 2019

1. Scripture memory: Review Titus 3:1-2. Memorize, meditate on, and be ready to recite Titus 3:3.
2. Carefully read Acts 1:15-26.
3. One of the noteworthy facts of biblical history was the fact that Judas Iscariot was numbered among the twelve apostles of Jesus (Acts 1:17, See Luke 6:12-16). Old Testament Scripture not only prophesies about Jesus but also Judas. What do we learn about Judas from these passages?
 - Psalm 41:9 (Compare with John 13:18-19)

 - Psalm 69:25 and 109:8 (See Acts 1:16-20, John 17:12)

 - Zech. 11:12-13 (Compare with Matt. 27:3-10, Deut. 23:18)
4. What important support do you see in our passage for divine inspiration of Scripture? (See 2 Tim. 3:16-17, 2 Pet. 1:20-21. Also Acts 4:25). What is the role of the human author and what is the role of the Holy Spirit in the creation of Scripture?
5. Since Judas betrayed Jesus and killed himself, why not just leave the total apostles at 11? (Matt. 19:28, Luke 22:28-30, Rev. 21:14)
6. What qualifications did potential apostles need to meet according to our passage? What was the role of an apostle? Are there apostles in the Church today? Why or why not? (Acts 1:21-22, Acts 2:42-43, 2 Cor. 12:12, Eph. 2:19-20, 4:11-12)

7. Scripture is clear that God is sovereign over his creation, but it is also clear that people make meaningful choices.

a) In our passage, where do you see the responsibility of men and where do you see the sovereignty of God in the selection of a replacement for Judas?

b) Casting lots to make decisions among alternatives was a common practice in both Old and New Testament days. (Prov. 16:33, see also Num. 33:53-54, 1 Sam. 10:19-21; 1 Chron. 25:8, 26:12-13; John 19:24) Is this a practice you should follow today? Why or why not?

c) How can you go about discerning God's will on moral or ethical decisions? (In most cases, for decisions that are not moral or ethical in nature, you may simply choose). (Prov. 2:1-7, 11:14) Can you think of an example where you faced such a decision? How did you go about deciding?

d) Where else do we see the sovereignty of God placed alongside the responsibility of mankind? (see John 6:37 & 44, with 47, 51, 53-54; Rom. 8:29-30 with 10:9-10; Eph. 1:4-6 with 13-14; John 15:16) How do you react to this tension? How *should* you react to this tension? (Rom. 11:33-36)

8. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on Sunday, May 5th? How were you challenged? What points of application did you take away from the message?

PRAY IN THE GROUP: Pray for our upcoming Women's Ministry meetings and Men's Breakfast. Pray that those who participate would have hearts open to hearing from God and that they would experience genuine, life-giving Christian fellowship.