
ORIGINS:

*From the Birth of the
New Testament Church to
You*

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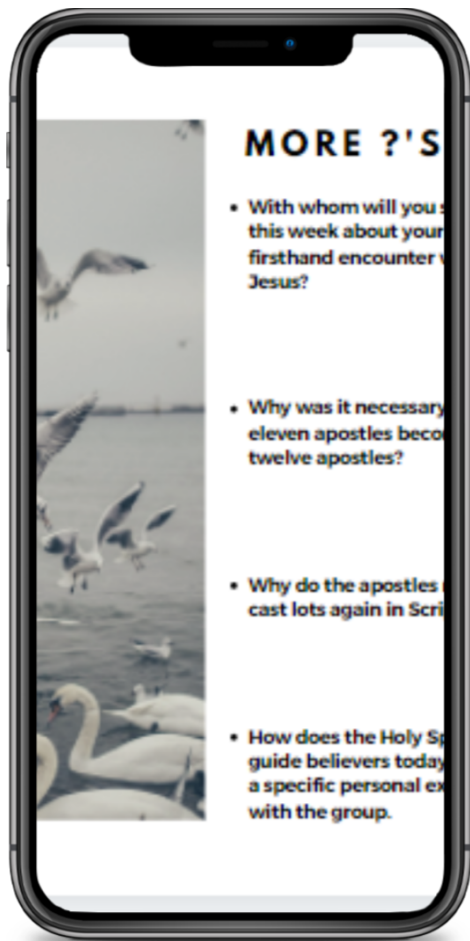
FAMILY/GROUP SESSION 1

WATCH OR LISTEN TO THE SERMON AT
JESSECAMPBELLMINISTRIES.COM, THEN LEAD YOUR
GROUP OR FAMILY IN THE BIBLE PASSAGE THAT
FOLLOWS

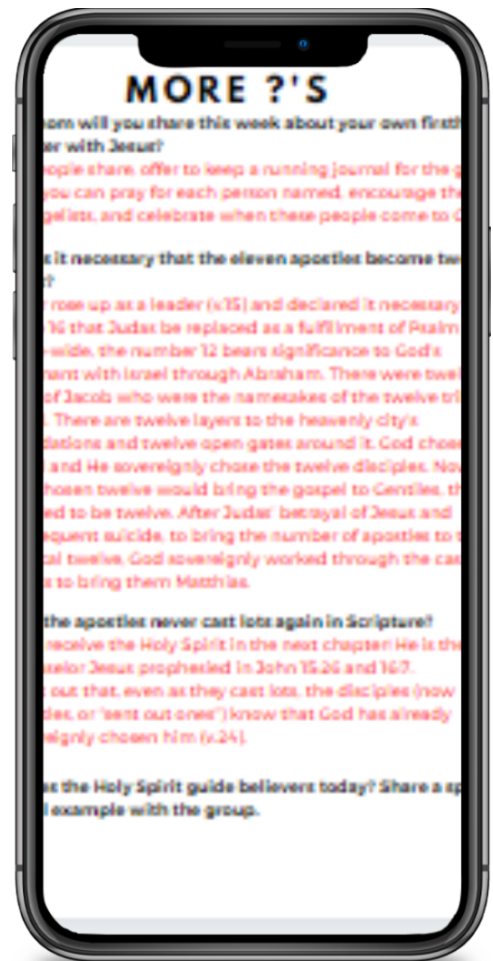
LEADERS

HERE IS HOW YOU USE THIS GUIDE:

What your group members see:



What you see:



The **RED** text is coaching, direction, and suggested phrasing that only you see. If it's lame, you can blame it on me (Jesse). If it's awesome, it was your idea.

ACTS 1:21 - 26

This week's sermon is in Acts 1:1-22
At www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com

ICE-BREAKER:

Ideas to start things off

- “Welcome, everyone. I’m glad you’re with us - even you, Gary.”
- With either real dice, or dice on an app, see who can call the number before it rolls. Try it two or three times. (“The disciples did not yet have the Holy Spirit. So, they resorted to something like this to discern God’s sovereign will for who would replace Judas in Acts 1.”)

CONTEXT:

Properly expositing the Scripture

- Invite Group Members who have not yet watched it on video or listened to its podcast audio to find this session’s corresponding sermon at www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com.
- While the Gospels and the historical books of the Bible tell the story of what happened, the Book of Acts tells the story of what is still happening. Did you know that there are red letters in some Bible translations in the opening chapter of Acts? Indeed, Jesus spoke in the Book of Acts.

THE BIG IDEA:

What is the main thing in this text?

God’s sovereign plan was at work through the twelve disciples - even through Judas’ betrayal of Jesus, subsequent suicide, and seemingly randomized replacement. Today, we have inherited their ministry as apostles.

THE BIBLE TEXT:

from the Christian Standard Bible

Acts 1:21 “Therefore, from among the men who have accompanied us during the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us— 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day he was taken up from us—from among these, it is necessary that one become a witness with us of his resurrection.” 23 So they proposed two: Joseph, called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. 24 Then they prayed, “You, Lord, know everyone’s hearts; show which of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this apostolic ministry that Judas left to go where he belongs.” 26 Then they cast lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias and he was added to the eleven apostles.

QUESTIONS

Applying our lives to the text, book-by-book together

- **Why was it important that the new apostle be present from the baptism of John until the ascension of Jesus?**
 - This way, Psalm 69:25 was fulfilled as Judas’ replacement would be a firsthand witness to Christ’s entire ministry just as Judas was.

MORE ?'S

- **With whom will you share this week about your own firsthand encounter with Jesus?**
 - As people share, offer to keep a running journal for the group so that you can pray for each person named, encourage the evangelists, and celebrate when these people come to Christ!
- **Why was it necessary that the eleven apostles become twelve apostles?**
 - Peter rose up as a leader (v.15) and declared it necessary in verse 16 that Judas be replaced as a fulfillment of Psalm 69:25.
 - Bible-wide, the number 12 bears significance to God's covenant with Israel through Abraham. There were twelve sons of Jacob who were the namesakes of the twelve tribes of Israel. There are twelve layers to the heavenly city's foundations and twelve open gates around it. God chose Israel and He sovereignly chose the twelve disciples. Now that the chosen twelve would bring the gospel to Gentiles, there needed to be twelve. After Judas' betrayal of Jesus and subsequent suicide, to bring the number of apostles to the biblical twelve, God sovereignly worked through the casting of lots to bring them Matthias.
- **Why do the apostles never cast lots again in Scripture?**
 - They receive the Holy Spirit in the next chapter! He is the Counselor Jesus prophesied in John 15:26 and 16:7.
 - Point out that, even as they cast lots, the disciples (now apostles, or "sent out ones") know that God has already sovereignly chosen him (v.24).
- **How does the Holy Spirit guide believers today? Share a specific personal example with the group.**

THE TAKEAWAY FOR US AS THE CHURCH:

Today, instead of casting lots, we have the Holy Spirit and New Testament Scripture to show us God's sovereign will. We heard the gospel through the ministry of these apostles and now it is our turn to pass it forward.

AROUND THE GROUP:

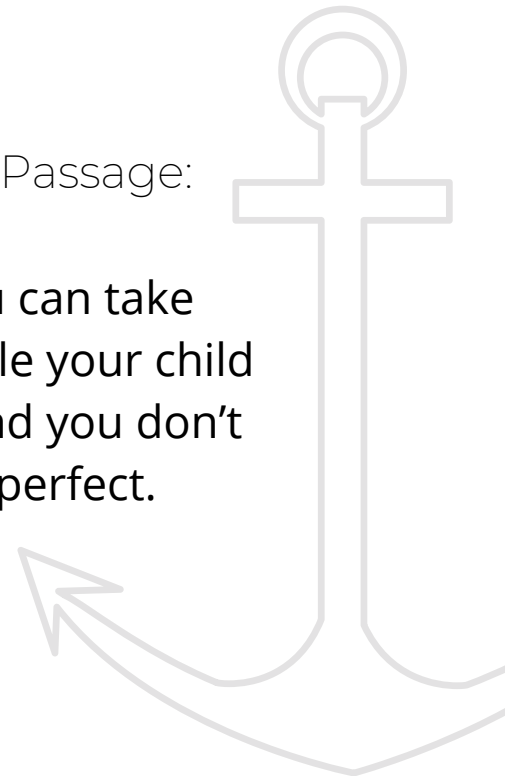
Follow-up and Assign one-on-one discipleship as needed

- Keep a journal of prayers prayed and answered, ask for updates on the Non-Christians each Christian in the group is sharing the gospel with, and invite each member of the group whether Christian or Non-Christian to take their next steps in the discipleship process.

FOR PARENTS:

How to Show Your Kids Jesus in This Passage:

All Scripture points to Jesus. Here is how you can take what God showed you in this text and disciple your child with it! You don't need a seminary degree and you don't need to be perfect. Just point to Jesus. He is perfect.



Tell your child about your own firsthand encounter with Jesus just like the apostles' firsthand encounters with Him. Read verses 21,22 of Acts 1 to them. Explain baptism, invite your child to be baptized if he or she is already a believer and has not yet been baptized. Then, pray over your child that, if you are a Christian, he or she would become a witness with you to the resurrection of Jesus.

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