

Life Group Guide

Acts 1:12-26 | "Now What?"

INTRODUCTION FOR GROUP LEADERS

This guide is designed to help your group move beyond simply reviewing sermon content and into genuine conversation, reflection, and application. The passage centers on how the early church responded to uncertainty and transition — not with panic or passivity, but with obedience, Scripture, and prayer. Encourage your group to be honest about where they personally struggle with trust and dependence on God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Main Idea: The church thrives when believers are grounded in His Word and unified in prayer.

Three Observations from the Text:

1. A people devoted to God — expressed through obedience and unified prayer
2. A people guided by Scripture — using God's Word to understand His purposes and live out His will
3. A people who trust in God's direction — because He knows all things and guides His people

GETTING THE CONVERSATION STARTED

Begin your time together with one of these opening questions. The goal is simply to get people talking before moving into deeper discussion.

- When was the last time you found yourself in a "now what?" moment — a season where you knew God had brought you somewhere but you were unsure what came next? What did that feel like?

- On a scale of one to ten, how naturally does prayer come to you as a first response rather than a last resort? What tends to get in the way?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Section 1: A People Devoted to God (*Acts 1:12-14*)

1. After Jesus ascended, the disciples returned to Jerusalem because He had told them to wait there. It was a simple act of obedience. Why do you think simple obedience is often harder in practice than it sounds? Where in your life right now is God calling you to a straightforward act of obedience that you have been delaying?
2. Acts 1:14 says the disciples devoted themselves to prayer "with one accord." The sermon described this unity as being gathered around the same shared realities — the resurrection, the ascension, the promise of the Spirit, and the mission. What shared

realities should be shaping the unity and prayer life of our group right now?

3. The pastor said, "The more experienced we become, the easier it is to substitute experience for dependence." Where have you seen this pattern show up in your own life — in ministry, parenting, work, or relationships? What does it look like to recapture genuine dependence on God in those areas?
4. There is a difference between a church that sprinkles in prayer and a church that is genuinely a praying church. What would it look like for our group specifically to move from the former to the latter?

Section 2: A People Guided by Scripture (*Acts 1:15-22*)

5. When Peter addressed the group about Judas, he did not default to his own opinion or emotions. He went straight to Scripture and said, "The Scripture had to be fulfilled." What is your default instinct when you face a confusing or painful circumstance — and how does that compare to Peter's instinct here?

6. The sermon made this distinction: we often seek God's concealed will for our lives while neglecting to live in obedience to His revealed will. What is one area where God's revealed will in Scripture is already clear to you, but you have been slow to act on it?
7. The pastor said, "It is not merely that we know the information, but that information has done something to our hearts." What is the difference between a Bible that marks pages and a Bible that marks a heart? How can you tell the difference in your own life?

Section 3: A People Who Trust in God's Direction (Acts 1:23-26)

8. The disciples prayed, "You, Lord, who knows the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen." Their prayer was rooted in the theology that God knows every heart completely. How does genuinely believing that God knows all things change the way you approach prayer and decision-making?
9. The sermon identified two common struggles when facing major decisions: fear of making

the wrong choice, and analysis paralysis.

Which of these do you tend toward more, and how has that tendency affected your walk with God?

10. The pastor said, "Our confidence is not in the perfection of every one of our decisions. Our confidence has to be in the sovereignty and in the faithfulness of God." How does shifting your confidence from your own decision-making to God's faithfulness change the way you move forward in uncertain seasons?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

Encourage each group member to choose at least one of the following before your next meeting.

For Personal Devotion: Spend time this week reading through a passage of Scripture that speaks directly to a decision or uncertainty you are currently facing. Write down what God's revealed will already makes clear, and bring that

to Him in prayer before asking Him to clarify what is still unknown.

For Prayer: Identify one area of your life where you have been relying on your own experience, competence, or planning rather than consciously depending on God. Bring that specific area before the Lord daily this week, asking Him to work in ways that only He can.

For Community: If you are carrying a burden, facing a decision, or wrestling with uncertainty, reach out to one mature believer in your life this week — not just to talk through it, but specifically to ask them to pray with you and speak into it. Do not let another week pass carrying it alone.

For Obedience: Is there a clear, simple act of obedience that you know God is calling you to but you have been postponing? Name it, write it down, and take one concrete step toward it before your group meets again.

CLOSING PRAYER GUIDE

Close your time together in prayer as a group. Consider praying through these four areas together:

- Obedience — Ask God to reveal where you have been hearing His Word without acting on it, and ask for the courage to take the next step.
- Dependence — Confess the specific ways your group has been substituting experience, planning, or self-sufficiency for genuine dependence on God.
- Unity — Pray for the kind of one-accord unity the early church modeled — not sameness, but shared commitment to the mission of Jesus.
- Trust — Ask God to move your confidence from the perfection of your decisions to the faithfulness of His character.

A WORD FOR YOUR GROUP THIS WEEK

The early church did not have all the answers. They did not have a detailed roadmap for what came next. What they had was a clear command, a shared mission, the Word of God, and a posture of prayer. That was enough for God to move through them in extraordinary ways. The same foundation is available to every believer and every church today. The question is not whether God is faithful. The question is whether we are willing to be the kind of people who trust that He is.