

4Ws Call Your Next Witness | Acts 1:12-26

Dgroup's Curriculum: Leader's Copy

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 139:1-12** together, taking turns reading a verse a time, or reading responsively with the leader reading a verse and the group responding with the next verse

Consider singing some of the songs on the sheets that were included in your packet if you have someone in the group that plays the guitar or can lead music and/or play the guitar.

WELCOME

Questions.

Have you ever been a witness or the member of a jury in a court case? Can you tell us about your experience? What makes a witness impactful in your opinion?

WORD

Discussion Questions.

1. During the message last Sunday, we reviewed the important facts about the Book of Acts. We learned that the Book of Acts is a narrative history of the early church following the resurrection of Christ. It is the 2nd part of the two-volume work with the Gospel of Luke being the 1st volume. What are the 2 important and distinguishing facts we derived comparing the Gospel narrative and the Book of Acts? What does this mean to you?

Answer:

The Gospel Narrative talks about the **finished redemption work of Christ**. In the Gospel, Jesus **provided** the right relationship with God.

The Book of Acts talks about the **work of Reconciliation**. Here, God's people **promote** the right relation with God.

2. During the message last Sunday we said that there were three things that the believers DID and by doing those things set an example for us. Look at Acts 1:12-26 and list the first of the things the believers put in place while they waited. What lesson can we learn from this? important for us today?

Answer:

Let the group spend some time looking at the passage and let them discuss. Prayer was the first thing we noted that they put in place while they were waiting. The passage says that they prayed 'constantly'. We are not sure exactly what this means, but it probably means that during those days of waiting there was never a time of the day or night when there wasn't someone praying. This reminds us of the importance of prayer and should prompt us to pray more collectively as a church.

3. Look again at Acts 1:12-26. What was the second on the list of things the first believers put in place and what does that mean for us today?

Answer:

Let the group spend some time looking at the passage and let them discuss. They studied God's Word individually and together. We know this because Peter was studying the Psalms wondering what to do during the waiting time. He discovered that King David had said in the Psalms that Judas would betray Jesus and that the other apostles should replace Judas when he had gone away. When Peter discovered this in the Scripture he shared it with the other believers and encouraged them to get it done. This reminds us of the privilege we have of being able to study God's Word on our own and then passing along to others what we have learned.

4. Look again at Acts 1:12-26. What was the third on the list of things the first believers put in place and what does that mean for us today?

Answer:

Let the group spend some time looking at the passage and let them discuss. Obedience to God's Word was the third thing the new believers put in place. Once Peter had taught that Judas needed to be replaced he encouraged the church to get busy and get that done. They followed the qualifications that Peter had set and then asked God to reveal to them who should replace Judas. God used the 'lot' to point out Matthias. The point here is that they learned from God's Word and then did what God's Word told them to do. When we study the Word of God we should often ask the question "What does that make you want to do? The point of that question is to help us to understand that we study the Word so that we can know God's will, but studying alone doesn't get the job done. We have to be committed to obeying God's Word when we have learned what it says. So, what does that make you want to do? along to others what we have learned.

5. We read about the process they take in choosing Matthias, by casting lots. What did we learn about the Casting of Lots or asking signs? Should this be a determinant in making your decisions? Why and why not?

Answer:

The casting of lots was last mentioned in this account. Although casting of lots is usually practiced during the old testament times, this should not be a determining factor in our decision making. For one, we already have the Holy Spirit in dwelt in us who gives us wisdom and guidance in our decisions. Also, the Bible is already available to us to know the will of God.

WORK

Remind them that we've just been talking about how the first followers of Jesus went everywhere telling everyone about Jesus. This serves as an example for us and we could be part of sharing Christ with others and being a witness just like the first followers were. We also have real power from the Holy Spirit who is within us and we need to learn to rely on Him as we reach out to others. Help them to understand that this could easily begin by inviting the people around them to come to D Group with you. Ask them to discuss this and then suggest that you start a list as a group of people you will begin praying for each week. We will pray for these people tonight and each night we're together until they come to our DGroup, or come to Christ through some other means. Have each couple/individual share the name of one couple/person to pray for and then ask one of the other people in the group to pray for them.

Close your time together in prayer.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Singapore Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Core, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Singapore Facilities

- CCF Singapore Center
- Equipments

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends