



The Waiting Is The Hardest Part

Series: "Real Christianity: How It All Started", Part 3 of 11

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Text: Acts 1:12-26

Big Idea: It's only when we do God's work in God's way that we receive God's supply and approbation.

Acts 1:4b, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised."

I. While They Waited, They Prayed

Acts 1:14, "They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers."

Acts 9:11, The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying."

Acts 10:9a, c, "About noon ... Peter went up on the roof to pray."

Acts 10:30b, "Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me."

II. While They Waited, They Obeyed What They Knew From Scripture.

Acts 1:15, "In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty)."

Acts 1:16b-20, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus— 17 he was one of our number and shared in this ministry." 18 (With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. 19 Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 "For," said Peter, "it is written in the book of Psalms, "'May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,' and, "'May another take his place of leadership.'"

And so, believing they were being guided by prophecies in Psalm 69 and Psalm 109, their whole motive is to obey Scripture as they understood it.

Acts 1:21-26, Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out 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 proposed 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.

Proverbs 16:33, “The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.”

III. While They Waited, They Lived Each Day With A Sense Of Expectancy.

Isaiah 64:4, “Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.”