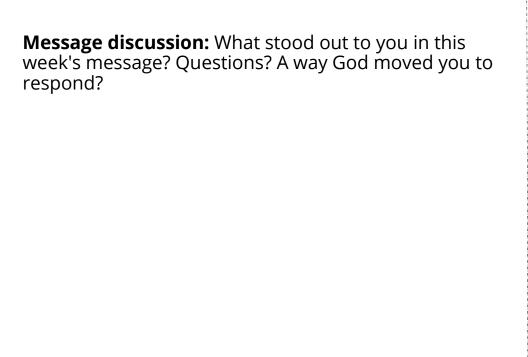


October 15 | Sermon Notes





Passage reflection: Acts 1:12-26. What stands out to you in these verses? Is there something you hear God saying to you? How can you respond to what He is saying?

The Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples on Pentecost, which is 50 days after Passover. Acts 1:3 says that Jesus "appeared to them over a period of 40 days and spoke about the kingdom of God." 50-40 = 10 days in the upper room.

1. Read: Psalm 33:20-22; Lamentations 3:25; and Acts 1:12-26. Jesus commanded the disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they received the promised baptism of the Spirit. What would have made waiting challenging for them? Why do you think God asks us to wait for Him?

2. Read Acts 1:12-26. "Continually devoting themselves to prayer" did not mean they were literally on their knees in prayer 24 hours per day for 10 days. As illustrated in this passage, discussions were also happening. What do you think the discussion was like leading up to Joseph and Barsabbas being "put forward?"

3. We aren't waiting for the Spirit in the same way the disciples were, but we're all called to wait on the Lord; we're all still waiting for Jesus' return and we need the empowerment of the Spirit to wait, and pray, and be and do what Jesus calls us to. Describe one area of your spiritual life where you are in need of the Spirit's power as you wait on and trust in God to do the things only He can do.

4. The decision to replace Judas with Matthias was made as a community with prayer and discussion. When you make important decisions, does your Christian community play a role in determining what to do? Why or why not?