

# **Unstuck: How the Early Church Changed the World**

Lesson 2

Acts 1:1-26

September 19, 2021

## **Changing the World by the Spirit**

### **Introduction**

In watching the US Olympic Volleyball team, it's interesting to watch the middle and outside hitters. These positions always make their run as if they are going to hit the ball. They jump every time in case the setter decides to come their way. They don't know if they'll be rewarded for their effort but make the run no matter the result. These people must rely on the setter to decide when and where to use them.

Obviously, like with any metaphor, this isn't perfect, but we are asked to be ready when it comes to Jesus' return. Jesus could come back at any time, and we need to be faithful to do what God has asked us to do. We are not to idly wait. We are called to share our faith, to take care of the poor and oppressed. We are to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

It's incredible to think that those we read about in the Bible had the same responsibility to share and to meet as Christians. If they had not heeded the call, we might not have the faith base we experience today. So, what will you do with your responsibility, and how does God say He will help us with this mission?

***Memory verse: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." —Acts 1:8***

Pray and read Acts 1:1-26. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

**What does the passage say?**

1. What was it Jesus did after His suffering? (Acts 1:3)
2. What command did Jesus give while He was eating with the apostles? (Acts 1:4-5)
3. What was Jesus' answer to their question about restoring the kingdom to Israel? (Acts 1:6-8)
4. What was it they all did together constantly? (Acts 1:14)
5. What was the field called where Judas died? (Acts 1:19)
6. What book of the Bible is Judas' deception foretold? (Acts 1:20)
7. What were the qualifications for the newest disciple? (Acts 1:21-22)

8. What was it they prayed regarding the nomination of a disciple? (Acts 1:24-25)
  
9. How was it decided that Matthias would be added? (Acts 1:26)

### **What does the passage mean?**

1. Verse three mentions that Jesus presented himself and gave many convincing proofs He was alive. What proof did He give? (John 20:26-27; 1 Corinthians 15:5-8)
  
2. What stipulations did they have to meet to become an apostle? (Acts 1:21-22) Why was this necessary?
  
3. What is the promise of the Father as referenced in verse four? (John 14:15-21)

4. How is Jesus going to come the second time?  
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-18)
  
5. Verse 7 says we are not to know the time or date of Jesus' second coming. How are we to live in the meantime? (Matthew 24:42, 44; 25:13; Luke 12:40)

### **Applying the passage**

1. While we await Jesus' return, we are always to remain faithful and ready. What does this look like for you? How else might you make yourself prepared for when Jesus comes back?

