

**Period of Waiting**  
**Lesson #15**  
**Acts 1:1-26**

Luke's two-volume work began with his Gospel that gave testimony through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth that He is the Messiah, the fulfillment of Scripture and Israel's hope. His second volume, Acts, is a continuation of that testimony covering the 30 years following Jesus' resurrection. During that time the Church was born and the Gospel moved from Jews to Gentiles and from Jerusalem to Rome (the ends of the earth).

**Introduction - Acts 1:1-3**

1. In the first verse of Acts, Luke refers to his "former book" and addresses this second volume to Theophilus. What title had Luke added to the name of Theophilus in his first volume? (Luke 1:3)
  
2. Why did he say he was writing? (Luke 1:1-4)
  
3. What did Luke say his first volume was about? (Acts 1:1-2a)
  
4. Luke also said that Jesus had given instructions (through the Holy Spirit) to his apostles. (Notice the change from disciples to apostles.) How long did Jesus stay on earth to give proof that he was indeed the risen Lord? (Acts 1:3)
  
5. According to the Apostle Paul, who saw Jesus after he was resurrected? (1 Corinthians 15:5-8)

**New Instructions - Acts 1:4-14**

6. "On one occasion, while he was eating with them," Jesus commanded them not to leave Jerusalem. Why were they not to leave? (Acts 1:4)
  
7. How did Jesus say that their baptism would be different from John's baptism? (Acts 1:5)

8. What question did Jesus' apostles ask him? (Acts 1:6)
  
9. How did Jesus answer them? (Acts 1:7)
  
10. The key verse of Acts is found in 1:8 and worth memorizing. *"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."* According to this verse:
  - When did Jesus say they would receive power?
  
  - What were they to use that power for?
  
  - Where were they to use it?
  
11. What took place after Jesus had given them these instructions? (Acts 1:9)
  
12. The apostles kept looking intently into the sky to watch, and then what happened? (Acts 1:10 & 11)
  
13. Where did this take place? (Acts 1:12)
  
14. Then the apostles left for Jerusalem and went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Who was in that room? (Acts 1:13)
  
15. What did they do while they were waiting? (Acts 1:14a)
  
16. Who joined them for this? (Acts 1:14b)

**Peter Takes the Leadership Role – Acts 1:15-26**

17. *“In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty).”* (Acts 1:15) Please notice, what are Jesus’ followers now called?
18. Peter was Jesus’ chief disciple, the one who had been trained to take over the leadership role upon Jesus’ leaving them. Having denied Jesus three times during his trial, what gave Peter the confidence and credibility among the group to step forward as leader?
- Luke 22:31-32
  
  - 1 Corinthians 15:3-5
  
  - John 21:15-17
19. Peter’s first recorded act was to deal with the issue of Judas Iscariot. Make a list of facts Peter gave about Judas. (Acts 1:16-19)
20. While the group of 120 believers waited in Jerusalem, they spent time in prayer and study of the Scriptures (Torah). Reading Psalms 69:25 and Psalms 109:8, Peter applied these verses to the current situation with Judas. What did those verses say? (Acts 1:20)
21. What was Peter’s solution? (Acts 1:21-22a)
22. Why did Peter say that was “necessary?” (Acts 1:22b)
23. What may have been Peter’s urgency to make sure there were 12 apostles? (Matthew 19:28 & Luke 22:30)

24. Two men fit Peter's criterion, Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. How did they decide which of these two men would join them?

- Acts 1:24a

- Acts 1:26a

25. What did they expect to happen with the latter? (Proverbs 16:33)

26. Who was chosen to join them in this apostolic ministry? (Acts 1:26)