**Bible Study Questions: READ Acts Chapter 1**

***Memory Verses:*** *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..."* — Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Chapter 1 covers Jesus appearance to His disciples over forty days, instructs them to await the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem, ascends to heaven, and the apostles, in prayerful unity, choose Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot among the Twelve.

**1. Jesus' Final Instructions and Promises *(Acts 1:1–5)***

These verses reveal the foundation of the early church and the last teachings of Jesus before His ascension.

1. **Who is the author of Acts, and why is it important to understand his perspective?**  
   *(Acts 1:1)*
2. **What is “the former account” Luke is referring to, and how does Acts continue that story?**
3. **Why is it significant that Jesus appeared to the disciples over 40 days after His resurrection?** *(Acts 1:3 – “with many infallible proofs”)*
4. **What did Jesus teach His disciples during those 40 days? What do you think was most important to Him before He ascended?**
5. **Why did Jesus instruct the disciples to wait in Jerusalem? What does this teach us about God’s timing and preparation?**  
   *(Acts 1:4–5)*

**2. Misunderstood Expectations & Kingdom Focus *(Acts 1:6–8)***

Here, Jesus corrects the disciples’ assumptions about His kingdom and commissions them for their true mission.

1. **How did the disciples misunderstand Jesus’ mission in Acts 1:6?**  
   *“Will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”*
2. **How does Jesus redirect their focus in Acts 1:7–8?**  
   *What does this tell us about the difference between earthly kingdoms and God's kingdom?*
3. **Why is Acts 1:8 considered the key verse of the book?**  
   *What does it mean to be a witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth?*

**3. The Ascension and Our Hope of His Return *(Acts 1:9–11)***

This section marks the powerful moment of Jesus’ ascension and the promise of His return.

1. **What is the significance of Jesus’ ascension (Acts 1:9–11)?**  
   *How does this moment connect with Old Testament prophecy and future promises?*
2. **Why do you think the angels reminded the disciples that Jesus would return “in like manner”?**  
   *How should this truth affect the way we live today?*

**4. Prayer, Unity, and Leadership in the Upper Room *(Acts 1:12–26)***

In the waiting, the early believers prayed together and made Spirit-led decisions. These verses show the heart of community.

1. **What does the unity and devotion of the early believers in the upper room teach us about prayer and waiting on the Lord?** *(Acts 1:12–14)*
2. **Who was among those praying with the disciples? Why is Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the mention of “the women” important in this context?**
3. **How did Peter demonstrate leadership in addressing the need to replace Judas? What does this teach us about godly leadership?**  
   *(Acts 1:15–22)*
4. **Why was it important that the new apostle be a witness to Jesus’ resurrection? What qualifications were necessary?**
5. **Why did the early church rely on prayer and casting lots to make decisions? How do we seek God's will today?** *(Acts 1:24–26)*

**Reflect**

1. **God's Timing:**  
   In Acts 1:4, Jesus instructs the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Father's promise. Can you recall a time when you had to wait on God's timing? How did that experience shape your faith and understanding of His plans?
2. **Understanding the Role of the Holy Spirit:**  
   Jesus promises that the disciples will be baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5). In what areas of your life do you need the Holy Spirit's power to be more evident? How can you actively seek His guidance and strength in these areas?
3. **Embracing Our Calling as Witnesses:**  
   In Acts 1:8, Jesus commissions the disciples to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. What does being a witness for Christ mean to you personally? Are there specific steps you feel led to take to share His message within your community or beyond?
4. **Cultivating a Life of Prayer:**  
   Acts 1:14 describes the disciples as being devoted to prayer. How consistent is your personal prayer life? What strategies can you implement to develop a more devoted and unified prayer practice, both individually and within your faith community?
5. **Responding to Leadership Opportunities:**  
   The early believers sought to replace Judas by appointing Matthias (Acts 1:21–26). Have you ever felt called to step into a leadership role or take on new responsibilities within your church or community? How did you discern that calling, and what was your response?