

Making Tough Decisions with God's Help

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TEXT: Acts 1:21-26

Proverbs 16:33

33 *The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.*

LETTER A: This means that _____ in life happens by _____, not even which stone falls out of the jar first. Even the _____ events of life come under God’s divine _____.

Acts 1:21-26

21 *“Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,*

22 *beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.”*

23 *And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.*

24 *And they prayed and said, “You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen*

25 *to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.”*

26 *And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.*

There Are Three “Firsts” In These Verses:

A) The “first” church _____.

B) The “first” recorded _____ in the book of Acts.

C) The “first” _____ of church leaders.

LETTER B: Jesus has _____ into heaven, and the remaining eleven disciples are doing _____ they are supposed to be _____—they are _____.

Acts 1:4

4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me.”

Luke 10:1

1 After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

Acts 1:4

4 ... He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father ...

LETTER C: We do things the _____ we want, and
_____ we want them done. Many times, we simply don't
_____ on God.

LETTER D: The Bible is the _____, most natural, most basic way
for God to _____ to us now.

Matthew 19:28

28 *So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."*

Psalms 69:25

25 *May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it.*

Psalms 109:8

8 *May another take his place of leadership.*

Peter lists three qualifications for a true apostle:

- 1) He must have been with Christ from the very beginning of his ministry. This meant he couldn't be a novice or a recent convert.
- 2) He must be known to the apostles. This meant they were unlikely to be fooled again.
- 3) He must be a witness to the resurrection. This was essential because the resurrection is the heart of the Christian faith.

LETTER E: Our faith _____ on the eyewitness _____,
of men who _____ Jesus Christ intimately, and publicly
_____ what they _____ ... and _____.

LETTER F: Sometimes, we pray in order to _____ God to do what
we _____ Him to do ... we're trying to talk Him into doing what
_____ want done.

LETTER G: There are only _____ prayers in the universe:
“_____ will be done” or “_____ will be done.”

Acts 1:26

26 *And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.*

Here are six steps you need to take when you've got to choose, and you don't know which way to go.

1. Seek godly counsel.
2. Search the Scriptures
3. List your options
4. Pray for God's guidance

5. Make the best decision you can
6. Move on and leave the results with God

Proverbs 16:33

33 *We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.* (NLT)