



Greater Life Church South

"Loving and Leading People to a Greater Life"

Pastor Nate Stewart, Lead Servant

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Theme: Preparing for Power

Objective: Prayer, unity, and leadership alignment before revival

Focus Scripture: *Acts 1:12–26*

Introduction:

Before Pentecost came powerfully, the disciples first gathered intentionally. Acts 1 shows us that spiritual power is not random, it is prepared for. God moves through people who are unified, prayerful, obedient, and aligned with His purpose. Revival does not begin in the streets, it begins in the upper room.

Jesus had already given the promise of the Holy Spirit, but the disciples still had a responsibility to prepare their hearts and their leadership for what was coming.

Main Truth of the Passage:

Spiritual power is released when God's people walk in obedience, unity, prayer, and proper spiritual alignment.

Point 1

Obedience Positions Us for God's Power - *Acts 1:12*

The disciples returned to Jerusalem just as Jesus commanded them to do in *Acts 1:4*. They did not rush ahead, they did not delay, and they did not debate. They obeyed.

- Obedience shows trust in God's timing

Acts 1:12, they walked back to Jerusalem even without knowing exactly how the promise would unfold. Faith obeys before it understands.

- *John 14:15*, If you love Me, keep My commandments.

- *Deuteronomy 28:1*, Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.



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Point 2

Unity Creates the Atmosphere for God's Power - *Acts 1:13-14*

The disciples gathered together in one place, with one purpose, and with one heart. Different personalities, backgrounds, and callings were present, but unity remained.

- Unity does not require sameness

Acts 1:14, they were different people, but they were united in prayer and purpose. God works best when His people move together.

- *Psalms 133:1*, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

- *Amos 3:3*, Can two walk together, unless they are agreed.

Point 3

Prayer Prepares the Heart for Power - *Acts 1:14*

They were not just waiting, they were praying. Prayer was their posture while they waited for the promise.

- Persistent prayer builds spiritual readiness

Acts 1:14, they continued in prayer, not casual prayer, not rushed prayer, but devoted prayer.

- *Luke 18:1*, Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.

- *James 5:16*, The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.



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Point 4

God Restores What Was Lost Before He Expands What's Coming –*Acts 1:15–20*

Peter addressed the absence of Judas. Before the church could grow, leadership had to be restored.

- Scripture confirms God's plan
Acts 1:16–20, Peter used the Word to guide the decision, not emotions or opinions.
- *Psalm 119:105*, Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- *Isaiah 55:11*, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth, it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Point 5

Leadership Must Be Spiritually Aligned - *Acts 1:21–26*

They did not just choose anyone. They chose someone who had walked with Jesus, witnessed His resurrection, and was spiritually qualified.

- God confirms His choices
Acts 1:24–26, they prayed and trusted God to reveal the right leader, showing that spiritual decisions require divine direction.
- *Proverbs 3:5–6*, Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.
- *1 Samuel 16:7*, For the Lord does not see as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.