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Navigating Life: There's an App for That

Series: *Our Place in God's Plan – A Study in the Book of Acts*

Central Thought: God has given us everything we need to be who he's called us to be and do what he's created us to do.

2 Peter 1:3–4 (NIV) — 3 His divine power has **given us everything we need** for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

❖ An Unexpected Departure and a Strange Promise

Acts 1:9–11 (NIV) — 9 After he said this, **he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.** 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “**why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.**”

Mark 14:61–62 (NIV) — 61 But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” 62 “I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (See also Mk. 16:19; Acts 2:33; 7:55–56; Rom. 8:34; Col. 3:1; 1 Peter 3:22.)

- Through his ascension, Jesus takes his rightful place of authority at the “right hand” of God, and makes himself available to everyone by his Holy Spirit.

❖ Apps for the Journey

○ Intentional Community

Acts 1:14 (NIV) — 14 They **all joined together** constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 2:1 (NIV) — 1 When the day of Pentecost came, **they were all together** in one place.

○ Persistent Prayer

Acts 1:14 (NIV) — 14 They all joined together **constantly in prayer**, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 1:24–25 (NIV) — 24 Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen **25** to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.”

○ Diligent Study

Acts 1:15–16 (NIV) — 15 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) **16** and said, “Brothers and sisters, the **Scripture had to be fulfilled** in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus.

Acts 1:20 (NIV) — 20 “For,” said Peter, “**it is written in the Book of Psalms:** “ ‘May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,’ and, “ ‘May another take his place of leadership.’”

Homework:

- ❖ Consider the quality of your regular relationships. Ask God to guide you into intentional, Christian community.
- ❖ Get a good Study Bible and basic commentary: The Life Application Study Bible, the ESV Study Bible or the free app, The Faith Life Study Bible, N.T. Wright's “Everyone Bible Study Guides.”
- ❖ Attend the weekly Bible study here at CCC each Sunday at 8:45am.
- ❖ Begin to incorporate prayer into your daily life and decision making.