

Living on Purpose Part 1 - “Patient in Prayer” (1-11-26)

Main Text: Luke 24:44-49 and Acts 1:3-5, 11

Introduction: We spent last year looking at the life of Jesus through the Gospel of Mark, and completed the year by looking at His birth as recorded in Matthew and Luke. Now . . .

1) Promise

After the resurrection of Jesus, He began to appear to His followers over a period of 40 days. Following His visit with 2 of them on the Road to Emmaus when he opened their eyes to see who He was. He then appeared to all of them together . . .

Luke 24:44-48 (ESV)

[44] Then (Jesus) said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” [45] Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, [46] and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, [47] and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. [48] You are witnesses of these things.

Note: He connected all the dots of their understanding, and gave them purpose - be witnesses to all nations

Now it’s time for the strategy session right? Here’s all the steps you’ll take, here’s all of your specific assignments. Surely he’ll give them instructions and send them into action!

Luke 24:49 (ESV)

And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Note: I’m not sending steps or instructions, I’m sending something else. So wait in the city.

Luke then recorded his ascension in to Heaven. Let’s take a look at Luke Part 2 (The Acts of the Apostles)

Acts 1:3-5 (ESV)

[3] (Jesus) presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. [4] And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; [5] for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Note: The promise from the Father, is the Holy Spirit’s presence

Before going on to what He has called them to do, He tells them they need to wait for the promise . . .

2) Patience

Luke 24:49 (ESV)

And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Note: Stay - In the old KJV its translated "Tarry ye in the city"

Tarry - (G2523) means "to cause to sit down" **In** - means to remain. It carries the idea of rest.

- **This phrase: Stay in the city** means: To cause to sit down and remain at rest in the city

a) Tarry - (G2523) - often used to describe a posture of sitting (Jesus did this a lot) - to observe, teach, & pray

Matt 5:1 - Jesus "sat" on the mountain, the people came to him, then he preached the sermon on the mount, also used in a similar context when Jesus sits among his disciples and teaches them in Capernaum (Mark 9), when Jesus sits in the boat to preach to the multitude by the sea shore.

Used in multiple places to describe Jesus when he "sits" on his throne throughout Gospels and Letters

Matt 26:36 - "sit" here while I go and pray (Jesus in Gethsemane)

Acts 18:11 - Paul "continued" in Corinth for a year and a half by the instruction of God to teach them

Now let's look at the next place Jesus gave the instruction to wait . . .

Acts 1:4 (ESV)

And while staying with them (Jesus) ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father . . .

Note: Jesus orders them to wait. This is slightly different than tarry . . .

"wait for" - (G4037) means to wait around (perimeno) only used once. Waiting with a purpose (used only here)

- **Peri** (G4012) - concerning or about
- **Meno** (G3306) - abide, remain, wait

b) Wait (G3306) - used to describe waiting, remaining, or abiding . . . most commonly "Abide"

Used over 100 times in NT - Abide in Him, He abides in us, We are to allow certain things to abide in us, etc.

Practice Abiding: Great way to practice abiding - take the time to look up and read these

Meno (G3306) - strong's exhaustive concordance (book), word search in Bible app for the greek word

***Note** - in study, be sure to use word for word translations, not thought for thought, or paraphrases

Application: Jesus is telling them how to be patient, they are told to **Sit** (Tarry) and **Abide** (Wait)

Holy Spirit - appeared like flames and "sat" upon them (Acts 2:3)

Holy Spirit - "abides" in us

Jesus sits and abides - And if we are going to carry His Power, we need to learn His Posture

3) Prayer

So how did His Followers keep Jesus instructions to wait?

Acts 1:14 (ESV)

All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Note: They devoted themselves to prayer. . . 2 forms of the word prayer are used:

- **prayer** (G4335) - to offer prayer, often used to describe a “place of prayer” or “house of prayer”
- **supplication** (G1162) - petition, pray for a particular need, or particular benefits, to seek, ask, entreat

Prayer (G4335) - Used 8x in the Gospels . . .

2x: Matt 17:21 and Mark 9:29 - Demon cast out, “this kind only goes out by prayer and fasting”

3x: Matt 21:13, Mark 11:17, and Luke 19:46 - “My house shall be called a house of prayer”

6) When disciples are amazed that the tree he had cursed withered . . .

Matthew 21:22 (ESV)

And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.

7) When Jesus was going to choose the 12 disciples . . .

Luke 6:12 (ESV)

In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God.

8) Luke 22:45 - when Jesus finished praying in Gethsemane and found the disciples sleeping

Prayer (G4335) and Supplication (G1162) used together . . .

Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints

Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

[6] do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion: Living with purpose, receiving direction, new beginnings. It all comes back to waiting on the Lord in Prayer.

Do I want to create my own sense of purpose and direction in my life? As a church are we just coming up with some “vision” for the New Year? Or will we learn to practice the posture of Jesus?

May we Sit and Abide in Prayer, waiting on His lead!

Acts 1:14a (ESV) - “All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer”