

NOW + NEXT

Gethsemane Next: The Call Process

The Disciples had a problem: A Vacancy

- **STEP ONE: Create a “Pastoral Profile”**

Acts 1:21-22 - *So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us- one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.*

- **Notice:** They had two characteristics for the one who would fill that vacancy.
 - With them from the beginning
 - Witnessed the Risen Christ
- **We will create a “pastoral profile”**
 - What are the characteristics we wish to see in our next Sr. Pastor?
 - All of us will have input.

- **STEP TWO: Develop a “Call List”**

Acts 1:23 - *And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias.*

- **How do we develop our “call list?”**
 - Members can suggest a pastor for our call list.
 - The District President will add to that list.
 - When that process is done the District President sends the list to our Call Committee.
 - Along with that comes information on each pastor.

- Call Committee contacts them: Are they available? Open to talking with us?
- Interviews with some. Possible visits with a few
- What are we doing during this time? Acts 1:24 - "And they prayed..."
- **STEP THREE: The Call Meeting**
Acts 1:24-25 - *And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship ...*
 - **We will gather and pray for God's guidance.**
- **Now we depart from the early disciples' process. What they did:**
 - **Acts 1:26** - *And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.*
 - **Proverbs 16:23** - *The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.*
- **All this takes time, so what do we do?**
 - **Psalms 27:14** - *Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!*