Crossroads International Church Singapore Dr. Rick Griffith

Title

31 Jan 2021 Message 1 of 23

NLT 30 Minutes

**Put Wait in Your Gait**

***Acts 1***

**Topic:** Patience

**Subject:** How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit?

**Complement:** Prayerfully witness while you wait.

**Purpose:** The listeners will wait on the Spirit in a way pleasing to God.

**Attribute:** God of Perfect Timing

**Meditation:** Acts 1:8

**Reading:** Psalm 130 (A Song of Ascents)

**Benediction:** Phil. 3:20 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

**Songs:** Still Be Still (Getty), I Will Wait for You (Getty, Ps 130), In His Time (closing)

# Introduction

### Interest: Alas, after 8 months away from you all, we are back! We have waited for today for some time. We speak of *walking* in the Spirit and *filling* of the Spirit and the *indwelling* of the Spirit. But Susan and I have tried to be *waiting* in the Spirit!

Wait

#### The past year we have waited for God to open a door for us to have our sabbatical in Jordan where I committed to teach from August through December. We waited…and waited…and it didn’t happen.

Waiting in the Spirit

#### So we waited in the USA for a place to live—but COVID shut down all opportunities, so we wandered from relative to relative for eight months.

#### Finally, after waiting for Christmas to pass to return to Singapore, we waited in our 14-day quarantine.

#### But we only had to wait 7 days as a passenger on our plane was discovered with COVID, so we were sent to another hotel, only to learn that we were to be in different rooms. As they took away my wife for a week in the lobby I couldn't even say goodbye, calling out, “My Sweetie, you have my toothbrush in your luggage—and I have your computer power cord in mine!”

#### We’ve had three COVID tests this month and we’ve waited for the timing, test results, and the like.

#### But my desire in all this has been to wait in the Spirit.

#### Maybe you are waiting for sickness to pass. My son shared yesterday that there is a flu bug going around Seattle, so he took a picture of it so he’d recognize it.

Flu Bug

### Need: What are you waiting for? Are you waiting in the Spirit?

What waiting for?

#### What are you waiting for the Lord to do in your life?

##### Are you waiting for God to change someone’s heart toward you?

##### Are you waiting for God to bring a loved one to Jesus? I still wait for my 90-year-old mother.

##### Do you impatiently say, “Lord, I’m ready for you to come *today*—aren’t *you* ready?”

##### Maybe you wait to get a spouse, a better job, a raise, or some other benefit.

##### Every single one of us is waiting for something—so raise your hand if you can identify an area where you wait to see God work, OK?

#### Now another question: *How are you doing at waiting* right now?

#### Are you just sitting around waiting? Did you notice my sermon title, “Put Wait in Your Gait”? We all have a gait, which is the way you walk. Do you walk with the Lord in such a way that you wait well? I toyed with calling it, “Put Gait in Your Wait” also. They need to go together! So…

Gait

### Subject: How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit? In what ways can you honor the Lord when it seems that he delays or pauses your plans?

Subject

### Background: Our new series on Acts begins today that we are calling “Good News on the Move.” This book has the same author as the third gospel—Dr Luke, Paul’s traveling companion and articulate historian.

Luke

(2 slides)

Series Logo

#### We open up his book and see the disciples of Jesus waiting in Acts 1. At the beginning of this book, Luke sums up his first volume in verses 1-3.

Acts 1

#### Jesus had fully trained the disciples for three years and they were ready to go—or at least they thought so (Acts 1:1-3).

##### Who was Theophilus (1)?

Theophilus

1:1-2

###### This is the only time he is noted in the NT, but his name means “loves God” and so he obviously was a believer.

###### He likely was a wealthy man who financed Luke to write his two-volume work on Jesus and the Church. Theophilus believed in the risen Jesus.

Appeared

1:3a

KOG

1:3b

##### What was the “kingdom of God” (3)?

###### The Psalms tell us God has always ruled over the universe and always will.

Timeline

###### But the OT prophets—and Jesus also—spoke much about the kingdom after Messiah’s return. Matt 19:28 says 12 apostles will rule the earth.

Matt 19:28

###### It will be ruled by Messiah where Israel will have prominence over the entire world that will follow the Lord. The UN even has the kingdom text of Isa 2.

Peace

(Isa 2)

###### People will live past 100 again—and Jesus refers to this time in verse 6.

Long Life

(Isa 65:20)

#### But Jesus told them to wait for the Spirit’s power (1:4-5).

Wait for the Spirit

##### In other words, don’t go ahead of the Spirit.

##### God’s best gift to the disciples would be the Spirit’s indwelling (1:4-5).

##### What does it mean to be “baptized with the Holy Spirit” (5)?

###### This is not the baptism *of* the Spirit (never noted in the Bible)—nor the baptism *by* the Spirit (since Jesus is the one who baptizes).

###### Instead, Jesus would place them into the body of Christ *with* the Spirit entering their lives forever as he said in John 14:16-17.

##### John Stott noted, “We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come: he came on the day of Pentecost. He has never left the church.” We will see this in Acts 2 next week. Wow! His best gift now is his presence in our bodies!

Stott

### Preview: Let’s see from Acts 1 two ways they were to actively wait in the Spirit. This will teach us *two ways to wait* today. How can you wait for God’s timing in your life?

2 Ways

### Text: Acts 1 provides two habits of godly waiting for us.

(So how can you wait expectantly in the Spirit? First…)

# I. While you wait, witness (1:6-11).

MPI

[Don’t focus on the date of Christ’s return—focus on sharing the good news.]

Question

1:6

## We should witness to everyone until Israel is restored (1:6-8).

### What does this kingdom for Israel mean (6)?

#### Israel had kings for over 400 years from 1000-600 BC, but it had been over 600 years since the kingdom had ended.

#### We should use the normal language for “Israel” here and also for “kingdom” as they would have understood it. In fact, the kingdom for Israel is a key theme of Acts—seen here in the first chapter and also in the last few verses!

Kingdom

1 & 28

### Why do the disciples ask about a kingdom restored to Israel (6)?

Restore

#### They knew from many OT texts that Messiah would rule over Israel—and they knew that Jesus was that Messiah—so they reasoned that the now resurrected Jesus would restore that kingdom.

#### “In the disciples’ minds the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the coming of the promised kingdom were closely associated. And well they should be, because the Old Testament frequently joined the two (cf. Isa. 32:15–20; 44:3–5; Ezek. 39:28–29; Joel 2:28–3:1; Zech. 12:8–10). When Christ told the disciples of the soon-coming Spirit baptism, they immediately concluded that the restoration of Israel’s kingdom was near in time.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

Answer

1:7

### How does Jesus correct their understanding of Israel’s restoration (7)?

#### Does Jesus say that they had the wrong idea about the kingdom?

#### Does Jesus say, “Oh, you stiff-necked and dull disciples? When are you going to see that my kingdom is not a political one. It’s *spiritual* only!”

#### But he doesn’t say that it is only spiritual. He *affirms* their understanding of *what* the kingdom is. He just corrects the *timing* of that kingdom. It wasn’t going to happen then but only when the Father determines. They just needed to wait.

#### But in verse 8 he tells them what to do until the kingdom for Israel arrives: WITNESS!

### So what was the commission for the disciples (8)?

World Map

#### They were NOT to preach.

#### They were NOT to teach.

#### They were simply to WITNESS what they experienced. Isn’t that freeing?

#### It’s not hard to witness to what you have seen—“’Witness’ is a key word in the Book of Acts and is used twenty-nine times as either a verb or a noun. A witness is somebody who tells what he has seen and heard (Acts 4:19–20). When you are on the witness stand in court, the judge is not interested in your ideas or opinions; he only wants to hear what you know. Our English word *martyr* comes from the Greek word translated ‘witness,’ and many of God’s people have sealed their witness by laying down their lives.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

Witness Stand

### What is the significance of the threefold regions (8)?

1:8 Regions

#### Geographically, they go from the near to the far.

#### By size, it begins with a city, goes to regions and then beyond regions.

#### Culturally, they begin with the familiar and stretch to the unfamiliar.

#### Chronologically, it begins in AD 33 and finishes in AD 62—as well as to today.

Roman Empire

#### Linguistically, Hebrew/Aramaic moves to Greek/Latin/others.

Ascension

(4 slides)

## Christ’s last promise was to return to the Mt. of Olives (1:9-11).

### What is the significance of Jesus ascending (9-11; cf. Toussaint, BKC)?

#### This ended the ministry of Jesus on earth.

#### This began the ministry of Jesus in heaven at God’s right hand (Acts 2:33–36; 5:30–31; Heb. 1:3; 8:1; 12:2).[[3]](#footnote-3)

#### This continued the ministry of Jesus through his disciples.

#### This fulfilled the promise of Jesus to leave so the Comforter could come (stay tuned for that in Acts 2).

Angels

### What is the significance of Jesus rising at the Mt of Olives (11-12)?

Zech 14:4

#### Zech 14:4 says he will return at that same spot!

#### The Kidron Valley below is likely the Valley of Jehoshaphat where Jesus will judge the nations (Joel 3).

## How are you testifying to what Jesus has done for you while you wait for his return?

MPI

### Do you talk to people about Christ?

### Don’t just wait without a gait. Keep walking and witnessing.

(Besides witnessing, what is the other way to wait expectantly?)

• MPII

# II. While you wait, pray (1:12-26).

[Don’t be paralyzed by inaction—be prayerful with action.]

## The believers gathered to pray (1:12-14).

Upper Room

### Is the prayer of the disciples an example for us to follow (12)? Why not? Next week in Acts 2 we will see the amazing result!

### “No great spiritual awakening has begun anywhere in the world apart from united prayer—Christians persistently praying for revival” —Revival historian J. Edwin Orr.

Orr Quote

### God is renewing our church in prayer.

Matthias

## Peter followed God’s leading to replace Judas with Matthias (1:15-26).

### Did the disciples do the right thing by replacing Judas (12-26)?

#### The text strongly implies that it was proper, as Jesus said that the rule over Israel would need the 12 apostles (Matt 19:28). Paul saw himself as distinct from this group and it is an argument from silence to say that we never hear of Matthias again, as we only hear of Peter and James again!

#### But Acts never records other disciples ever being replaced as they died off.

Cast Lots

### Does casting lots mean that we should make decisions in the same way (26)?

Dice

#### This only *describes what they did* rather than telling us what we should do.

#### We also do not see it practiced again or ever commanded.

Touching Hands

## What does active waiting in prayer look like for you?

### What have you given up praying for? Why?

### God had me wait in prayer for my step-father—probably the most resistant person I have known. Talk about waiting! I prayed for him for 47 years until in 2020 he finally trusted Christ with me the last time I saw him—just three months before he faced God.

Subject

(So back to our original question: How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit?)

# Conclusion

MI

### *Prayerfully witness while you wait* (Main Idea). Put wait in your gait!

### Today we have seen how to wait (Main Points):

MPs

#### Witness while you wait for Christ’s return (1:6-11)—Israel will be restored in God’s timing, but work towards that.

• Witness

#### Pray while following God’s leading (1:12-26)—prayerfulness is dependance, but prayerlessness is independence.

Light bulb

WITNESS

• Pray

### How can you prayerfully witness while you wait now (Exhortation)? Start where you are!

#### Who are you praying for to trust Christ?

Your Jerusalem

#### Who should you be praying for?

Black

### Prayer

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

### Luke had already completed his gospel. It gave the history of how God directed the message of Jesus from Jews to Gentiles.

### “The Gospel of Luke tells of Christ’s ministry on earth in a physical body, while Acts tells of His ministry from heaven through His spiritual body, the church.”[[4]](#footnote-4)

### Luke 1:1-4 sums up the gospel of Luke.

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

### The disciples had such an attachment to Jesus that they likely expected to rule with him forever.

### But Jesus told them in John 14 that it was better for him to go away because an even better friend would come and be with them forever.

### That One to “come alongside” is the Holy Spirit who Jesus promised in Acts 1.

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

### Jesus had completed his ministry teaching the disciples, and then had died for humanity’s sin and resurrected. What else was left to do?

### What about the kingdom promised in the OT to Israel? That certainly had not yet come—Israel was still occupied by the Romans and no Jewish king ruled over Israel—nor did Israel rule over the world!

# Questions

### Who was Theophilus (1)?

#### This is the only time he is noted in the NT, but his name means “loves God” and so he obviously was a believer.

#### He likely was a wealthy man who financed Luke to write this two-volume work on Jesus and the Church.

### What was the “kingdom of God” (3)?

#### As the Psalms note, God has always ruled over the universe and always will.

#### But the OT prophets had spoken much about the kingdom that will be ruled by Messiah where Israel will have prominence over the entire world that will follow the Lord.

#### Jesus refers to this in Acts 1:6.

### Why was it so important to wait for the Spirit (4)?

#### Jesus answers this in verse 8 where he warns us not to live in our own power.

#### We need God’s power to serve him.

### What does it mean to be “baptized with the Holy Spirit” (5)?

#### This is not the baptism *of* the Spirit (never noted in the Bible)—nor the baptism *by* the Spirit (as Jesus is the agent).

#### Instead, Jesus would place them into the body of Christ *with* the Spirit entering their lives forever.

### When did they receive Spirit baptism (5)?

#### The fuller answer will be in Acts 2, but Jesus says in verse 8 that this will be when they receive power in the Spirit.

#### This was a transitional time when the Spirit came the first time, but the norm now is for all believers to be indwelt with the Spirit (1 Cor 12:13).

### What does this kingdom for Israel mean (6)?

#### Israel had kings for over 400 years from 1000-600 BC, but it had been over 600 years since the kingdom had ended.

#### We should use the normal language for “Israel” here and also for “kingdom” as they would have understood it.

### Why do the disciples ask about a kingdom restored to Israel (6)?

#### They knew from many OT texts that Messiah would rule over Israel—and they knew that Jesus was that Messiah—so they reasoned that the now resurrected Jesus would restore that kingdom.

#### “The sentence is introduced by the connective **so** (*men oun*), which associates the thought of verse 6 with verse 5. In the disciples’ minds the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the coming of the promised kingdom were closely associated. And well they should be, because the Old Testament frequently joined the two (cf. Isa. 32:15–20; 44:3–5; Ezek. 39:28–29; Joel 2:28–3:1; Zech. 12:8–10). When Christ told the disciples of the soon-coming Spirit baptism, they immediately concluded that the restoration of Israel’s kingdom was near in time (cf. comments on “restore” in Acts 3:21).”[[5]](#footnote-5)

### How does Jesus correct their understanding of Israel’s restoration (7)?

#### Does Jesus say that they had the wrong idea about the kingdom?

#### Does Jesus say, “Oh, you stiff-necked and dull disciples? When are you going to see that my kingdom is not a political one. It’s *spiritual* only!”

#### Actually, he doesn’t say that it is only spiritual at all. *To the contrary.* He *affirms* their understanding of the nature of the kingdom. He just corrects the *timing* of that kingdom’s arrival. It wasn’t going to happen then but only when the Father determines.

#### “1:7. Some conclude from the Lord’s response that the apostles had a false concept of the kingdom. But this is wrong. Christ did not accuse them of this. If the followers of the Lord Jesus had an incorrect view, this would have been the time for Him to correct it. The fact is, Christ taught the coming of an earthly, literal kingdom (cf. Matt. 19:28; Luke 19:11–27; 22:28–30). Acts 1:3 states that the Lord instructed the disciples about the kingdom; He certainly gave them the right impression as to its character and future coming. What Jesus discussed here (v. 7) was the *time* of the coming of the kingdom. The Greek word for **times** (*chronous*) basically describes duration of times, and the word for **dates** (*kairous*) refers to both length of times and kinds of times (as in, e.g., “hard times”). The disciples were **not … to know** either the times or the critical periods **the Father** had **set by His … authority**. Later, further revelation would be made concerning these (cf. 1 Thes. 5:1).”[[6]](#footnote-6)

#### But in verse 8 he tells them what to do until the kingdom for Israel arrives.

### When was this power from the Spirit fulfilled (8)?

#### Acts 2 fulfilled this.

#### This is the same event as the baptism with the Spirit in 1:5.

### What was the commission for the disciples to do (8)?

#### They were NOT to preach.

#### They were NOT to teach.

#### They were simply to witness what they had experienced.

#### “’Witness’ is a key word in the Book of Acts and is used twenty-nine times as either a verb or a noun. A witness is somebody who tells what he has seen and heard (Acts 4:19–20). When you are on the witness stand in court, the judge is not interested in your ideas or opinions; he only wants to hear what you know. Our English word *martyr* comes from the Greek word translated ‘witness,’ and many of God’s people have sealed their witness by laying down their lives.”[[7]](#footnote-7)

### What is the significance of the threefold regions (8)?

#### Geographically, they go from the near to the far.

#### By size, it begins with a city, goes to regions and then beyond regions.

#### Culturally, they begin with the familiar and stretch to the unfamiliar.

#### Chronologically, it begins in AD 33 and finishes in AD 62—as well as to today.

#### Linguistically, Hebrew/Aramaic moves to Greek/Latin/others.

### Why is the cloud equated with heaven (9-10)?

#### This is likely because heaven is a different realm just above us!

#### Scripture consistently affirms heaven to be hidden just above the earth: Elijah’s departure, Stephen’s martyrdom (Acts 7), new Jerusalem’s descent (Rev 21).

### What is the significance of Jesus ascending (9-11; cf. Toussaint, BKC)?

#### This ended the ministry of Jesus on earth.

#### This began the ministry of Jesus in heaven at God’s right hand (Acts 2:33–36; 5:30–31; Heb. 1:3; 8:1; 12:2).[[8]](#footnote-8)

#### This continued the ministry of Jesus through his disciples.

#### This fulfilled the promise of Jesus to leave so the Comforter could come (stay tuned for that in Acts 2).

### What is the significance of Jesus rising at the Mt of Olives (11-12)?

#### Zech 14:4 says he will return at that same spot!

#### The Kidron Valley below is likely the Valley of Jehoshaphat where Jesus will judge the nations (Joel 3).

#### “Do not confuse the promise of v. 11 with that of the rapture of the church as given through Paul in 1 Thes. 4. The angels here are promising that Christ will return to Mt. Olivet, visibly, and in glory. Luke 21:27 and Zech. 14:4 give the same promise. Had Israel accepted the apostles’ message, Christ would have returned to Mt. Olivet (see Acts 3:19–21) and established His kingdom. The Jewish missionaries would have spread His Gospel to the ends of the earth, and Israel would have been the center of blessing for all mankind as promised in Isa. 35:1–6 and 65:19–23.[[9]](#footnote-9)”

### Is the prayer of the disciples an example for us to follow (12)?

#### “No great spiritual awakening has begun anywhere in the world apart from united prayer—Christians persistently praying for revival” (Revival historian J. Edwin Orr).

#### God is renewing our church in prayer.

### Did the disciples do the right thing by replacing Judas (12-26)?

#### The text strongly implies that it was proper, as Jesus said that the rule over Israel would need the 12 apostles (Matt 19:28). Paul saw himself as distinct from this group and it is an argument from silence to say that we never hear of Matthias again, as we only hear of Peter and James again!

#### But Acts never records other disciples ever being replaced as they died off.

### Was the casting of lots an indication that we should make decisions in the same way (26)?

#### This is descriptive rather than normative as we do not see it practiced again or ever commanded.

#### Maybe the fact that Mathias is never heard about again shows this practice was not significant.

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

The response to God’s command to wait for his timing shows trust or doubt of his purposes.

The need to wait of God’s timing and power in the future

The power to witness comes from the Spirit

The way Jesus prepares us for his work is to wait on him.

The preparation to witness comes from prayer.

ACTS OUTLINE IN NT SURVEY:

* 1. The Spirit established the Jerusalem church by preparing the believers and Spirit baptism to teach us to trust the Spirit for witness (Acts 1–2).
     1. Believers wait for the Spirit so they could witness until Christ’s return and prepared by prayer and leadership replacement (Acts 1).
        1. Luke ties this account to his gospel by summing up Christ's ministry until his command to wait for baptism with the Holy Spirit (1:1-5).
        2. Rather than focus on Israel’s restoration, Jesus commanded his disciples to witness everywhere starting in Jerusalem (1:6-8).
        3. Jesus ascended to heaven with the promise of his return to the Mt. of Olives to exhort witnessing until he comes again (1:9-11).
        4. The apostles and 120 believers prepared for the coming of the Spirit by prayer and by replacing Judas with Matthias (1:12-26).

WIERSBE:

“In this chapter, we see the believers taking care of ‘unfinished business’ and getting ready for Pentecost. What they said and did reveals to us the faith of the church. In what did they really believe?

**They Believed in the Risen Christ (Acts 1:1–11)[[10]](#footnote-10)**

***The reality of His resurrection (v. 3a)***

***The coming of His kingdom (v. 3b)*.**

***The power of His Holy Spirit (vv. 4–8)*.**

***The assurance of His coming again (vv. 9–11)*.**

**They Believed in Each Other (Acts 1:12–14)**

**They Believed in Prayer (Acts 1:15, 24–25)**

**They Believed in God’s Leading (Acts 1:16–23)”**

# Possible Illustrations

### Times I had to wait

#### Quarantine: waiting for timing, test results, hotel stay, separation

#### Sophomore year passion to go to DTS

#### 47 years for Bob to trust Christ

#### Wait until God brought Susan into my life

#### Right timing to start CIC

### Christ’s command is to wait then witness.

#### Some witness without ever waiting on God.

#### Others wait and never get around to witnessing!

### Our church focus is a similar threefold expansion: Love God, love the church, and love the nations

# Possible Applications

### Wait in prayer.

### Don’t want the pandemic to be over so much that you learn nothing now.

**Power to Witness**

***Acts 1***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*: The way the disciples were to wait for the Spirit’s work was by witnessing and prayer.

# I. The way the disciples should wait was to rely on the indwelling Spirit (1:1-5).

## The ministry of Jesus in Luke focused on the Spirit and the kingdom of God (1:1-3).

## God’s best gift would be the Spirit’s indwelling (1:4-5).

# II. The way the disciples should wait for Christ’s return was to witness everywhere (1:6-11).

## The disciples should witness to everyone until Israel’s restored (1:6-8).

## Jesus ascended with the promise to return to the Mt. of Olives (1:9-11).

# III. The way the disciples were to wait was to pray and follow God’s leading (1:12-26).

## The believers gathered to pray for their ministry (1:12-14).

## Peter led the 120 to replace Judas with Matthias (1:15-26).

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will wait on the Spirit in a way pleasing to God.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: We speak of *walking* in the Spirit and *filling* of the Spirit and the *indwelling* of the Spirit. But are we *waiting* in the Spirit?

### Need: Are you waiting in the Spirit?

### Subject: How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit?

### Background: The disciples felt that they were ready to go—not wait (Acts 1:1-5).

### Preview: Let’s see from this chapter two ways they were to actively wait in the Spirit. This will teach us *two ways to wait* today. How can you wait for God’s timing in your life?

### Text: Acts 1 provides two examples of godly waiting for us.

(How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit? First…)

# I. While you wait, witness (1:6-11).

## We should witness to everyone until Israel is restored (1:6-8).

## Christ’s last promise was to return to the Mt. of Olives (1:9-11).

## How are you testifying to what Jesus has done for you while you wait for his return?

(Besides witnessing, what is the other way to wait expectantly?)

# II. While you wait, pray (1:12-26).

## The believers gathered to pray (1:12-14).

## Peter followed God’s leading to replace Judas with Matthias (1:15-26).

## What does active waiting in prayer look like for you?

(How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit?)

# Conclusion

### Prayerfully witness while you wait (MI).

### Today we have seen how to wait (Main Points):

### Exhortation: How can you prayerfully witness while you wait now?



**Rick Griffith**

31 Jan 2021

Message 1 of 23

**Put Wait in Your Gait**

***Acts 1***

# Introduction

### Are you waiting in the Spirit? What are you waiting for?

### The disciples felt that they were ready to go—not wait (Acts 1:1-5).

### How can you wait expectantly in the Spirit?

# I. While you wait, *witness* (1:6-11).

## We should witness to everyone until Israel is restored (1:6-8).

## Christ’s last promise was to return to the Mt. of Olives (1:9-11).

## How are you testifying to what Jesus has done for you while you wait for his return?

# II. While you wait, *pray* (1:12-26).

## The believers gathered to pray (1:12-14).

## Peter followed God’s leading to replace Judas with Matthias (1:15-26).

## What does active waiting in prayer look like for you?

# Conclusion: Prayerfully witness while you wait (Main Idea).

**Thought Questions**

### How can you prayerfully witness while you wait now?

### Who are you praying for to trust Christ?

### Who should you be praying for?

Download this sermon PPT and notes for free at BibleStudyDownloads.org/resource/new-testament-preaching/

1. Stanley D. Toussaint, [“Acts,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/bkc?ref=Bible.Ac1.6&off=118&ctx=+most+illuminating.%0a~The+sentence+is+intr) in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 354. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Warren W. Wiersbe, [*The Bible Exposition Commentary*](https://ref.ly/logosres/ntbec?ref=Bible.Ac1.4-8&off=1217&ctx=absolute+necessity.%0a~%E2%80%9CWitness%E2%80%9D+is+a+key+w), vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 403. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Toussaint, [“Acts,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/bkc?ref=Bible.Ac1.9-11&off=381&ctx=+hand+of+the+Father+~(Acts+2:33%E2%80%9336%3b+5:30%E2%80%93) 354. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Warren W. Wiersbe, [*Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the New Testament*](https://ref.ly/logosres/expolnnt?ref=Bible.Ac1.1-2&off=284&ctx=he+church+on+earth.+~The+Gospel+of+Luke+t) (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992), 278. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Stanley D. Toussaint, [“Acts,”](https://ref.ly/logosres/bkc?ref=Bible.Ac1.6&off=118&ctx=+most+illuminating.%0a~The+sentence+is+intr) in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 354. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
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