

Waiting Around

OPENING QUESTION

When you arrive early to an appointment or event, what do you do while you're "waiting around"?

READ Acts 1:1—26.

1. Why didn't Jesus spend ALL his of his time with his disciples the 40 days he was on earth after his resurrection?

- A. They didn't need it.
- B. They did need it.
- C. Jesus was very busy with a lot of other things.
- D. Jesus had to check in with his Father in heaven periodically.
- E. To better prepare them to operate without his physical presence.
- F. The disciples had a very limited attention span.
- G. Jesus was developing a back-up plan with some other people.
- H. Other.

2. What did Jesus reveal to his disciples after his resurrection?

- A. A repeat of what he had taught them before the crucifixion.
- B. He was about to overthrow the current earthly rulers.
- C. It would be thousands of years until he would return.
- D. The kingdom of God.
- E. The Seventh-day Adventist Church would be God's final people.
- F. Church growth strategies—how to evangelize to the max.
- G. Stay where you are until you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- H. Other.

3. Write some differences between the following two kingdoms?

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

THE KINGDOM OF/FOR THE DISCIPLES

4. When Jesus disappears, where and when can you see him again?

- A. You can't.
- B. Just about anywhere.
- C. Not until he comes in power and glory at the 2nd Advent.
- D. Spiritual things are spiritually discerned.
- E. What many people refer to as "luck" or "coincidence."
- F. In "the least of these" (*Matthew 25:31-46*).
- G. When reading Scripture or while praying.
- H. At inspirational gatherings.
- I. Other.

5. What did Christ's disciples do while they waited for the Holy Spirit?

- A. Kept together as the inner circle of 12; make that 11.
- B. Replaced Judas so they could maintain the kingdom number 12.
- C. Welcomed women and the brothers of Jesus into their inner circle.
- D. Sorted through the recurring issue of who was the greatest.
- E. Recruited financial donors and strategic planners.
- F. Invented the game of Rook to kill time.
- G. Prayed.
- H. Took a fresh look at Christ's teachings for them and for others.
- I. Other.

6. Why was Judas replaced?

- A. Because he was dead.
- B. Jesus never really wanted Judas to be part of the 12.
- C. There had to be 12 disciples.
- D. Several candidates seemed ready to take the next step.
- E. In order to grow, you have to "pass on the torch."
- F. In their parish plan, there were 12 regions; so they needed 12 guys.
- G. To demonstrate that even disciples are replaceable.
- H. We would have never heard about Matthias's exploits otherwise.
- I. Other.

7. Verses 7-8 have the word "you" 3 times? How do they apply to you right now?

8. The disciples vetted two guys and then cast lots (*Prov. 16:33; 1 Sam 14; Joshua 7*) to replace Judas. How do you get God's input for big decisions?