

TAKEAWAY

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE

Part Three: Acts 1:12-26



At Maybridge we want to be a church of disciples who make disciples – we hope this takeaway session encourages practical outcomes in the lives of the individuals in your group. The focus of group discussion should be on becoming 'doers of the word' and not just hearers or people who enjoy a good discussion!

As always, there are more questions and discussion prompts than you'll have time for, so feel free to use what is helpful for your group as time allows and discussion flows.

INTRODUCTION

As we work our way through the New Testament book known as 'Acts', our hope is to try to understand it, in context, and then think about what it has to say to us as followers of Jesus today. In this session, we unpack Acts 1:12-26 and what a seemingly insignificant record of leadership recruitment has to say about authentic christian leadership.

SHARE

- If there was one character trait you wish you could magically give to every leader in the world, what would it be? Why?
- Who comes to mind when you think of someone who has been a great leader? What impact has their example had on you?

READ

Acts 1:12-26

DISCUSS

What do you think it would have felt like to be part of Jesus' group after He left?

Jesus chose disciples from very different and sometimes conflicting backgrounds. Why do you think He did that? Why does it matter?

What are some unspoken expectations our society has about who gets to lead? Has this ever affected you?

Have you ever seen examples of leaders trying to do everything on their own? What happened?
Why is it vital that leaders are part of a community?

Why do you think our culture often encourages leaders to build personal brands or followings?
What problems might this bring?

What do you think it means that Christian leaders are meant to be *witnesses* (verse 22) above anything else? What might leadership look like if the focus was always on the person of Jesus and His plans rather than the person leading?

Do you see yourself as someone who could lead or influence others? Why or why not?

Which of the leadership ideas shared from Sunday's talk do you find most challenging personally?

If more leaders shaped by Jesus were leading in society, what difference do you think it might make?

EXPLAIN

On Sunday, six character traits of authentic christian leadership were picked out from this passage:

- 1.** Authentic Christian Leaders do what Jesus says
- 2.** Authentic Christian Leaders can come from any background
- 3.** Authentic Christian Leaders are never lone rangers or loose cannons
- 4.** Authentic Christian Leaders understand their story in light of God's story
- 5.** Authentic Christian Leaders know they are never, ever the main event
- 6.** Authentic Christian Leaders know they are 100% replaceable

Who in your life could you encourage or support in their leadership?

PRAY

TRY OUT

- What's one way you can bless or encourage or support a leader this week?
- Pray for all kinds of leaders in different contexts, spheres of influence and authority.
- Reflect this week on your own leadership or influence of others? Are there barriers or expectations that mean you discount yourself from leadership roles or 'play it safe'? Any wrong ideas that have shifted your focus away from Jesus? Pray for God's help to be shaped by Jesus. Is there a next step or habit that will help you grow in authentic christian leadership?