

October 16

Acts 1:12-26

These verses tell about the selection of a replacement for Judas, and also what the disciples initially did after Jesus ascended to heaven.

Question to Consider:

The text tells us that, "They all joined together constantly in prayer." How often do you pray? How has prayer been a blessing to you?

Prayer:

Loving God, I know that you want me to pray and I trust that you hear my prayers. Help me to grow as a person of prayer so that the day will eventually come when I am more like the disciples, who were "constantly in prayer." I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

October 17

Acts 2:1-13

This passage tells the story of the birth of the church, when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles at Pentecost.

Question to Consider:

It would be hard to imagine a more dramatic encounter with the presence of God. Regardless of how dramatic it might have been, has there been a time in your life when you encountered God's presence in a significant way? What were the circumstances?

Prayer:

Almighty God, it may not be with the sound a violent wind or with tongues as of fire, but I believe that you are with me and I pray that I am always receptive when you want to enter into my life. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

October 18

Acts 2:14-41

In this passage, we read about the sermon that Peter preached after the Holy Spirit had come upon the apostles. (Note: an excellent verse of Scripture to memorize is Acts 2:38)

Question to Consider:

When the opportunity presented itself, Peter boldly proclaimed the gospel – the Good News that Jesus Christ was the Messiah and that through him salvation is offered to all who will receive it. Have you received the gift of salvation in Christ by accepting him as your Savior and Lord?

Prayer:

Gracious God, I open my heart to you and to your gift of salvation in Christ. I want to receive Christ as my savior. I want to turn away from sin and give my life to you. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

October 19

Acts 2:42-47

These verses describe daily life in that earliest Christian community.

Question to Consider:

Read closely the description of that earliest Christian community. Could a community like that exist today? Would you be willing to put forth some effort to make it a reality?

Prayer:

Father God, in these verses I find a clear description of the kind of faith community you desire. I pray that I will be willing to let you use me to try and make that kind of faith community a reality today. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

October 20

Acts 3:1-10

This passage tells of Peter and John healing a crippled beggar.

Question to Consider:

The man asked Peter and John for money, but instead they gave him something of much greater value. Do you see your relationship with Jesus as something of great value? How valuable is it, and how can you best share it?

Prayer:

Merciful God, you have blessed me in many ways, but the greatest gift I have is the love of Jesus. Help me to receive that gift with an open spirit, and to generously share that gift with everyone I meet. In his name I pray, Amen.