

# **“Surviving Sanctification”**

*Are you going on with God?*

Acts 1:15-26

*We must prepare for tough: Disappointments, Decisions*

## **I. Disappointments** – “concerning Judas” (vs. 15-20)

*We must learn to overcome disappointment from:*

### **A. Leadership** – “guide to them”

*Scribes and Pharisees*

*Peter’s past and future*

### **B. Loyalties** – “was numbered with us”

*Traitors*

*Choosing sides*

### **C. Loss** – “be desolate”

*Opportunities*

*Land*

*Life*

*Gross and Smelly – etched in our memory*

### **The Purpose of Loss**

- 1.) Loss teaches us that we can’t have what we want every time.
- 2.) Loss is an opportunity to experience the comfort of God.
- 3.) Loss teaches us to depend on God.

**Correct Responses to Loss** – Changing “Why” to:

- 1.) What can we learn through this experience?
- 2.) How can we grow through this experience?
- 3.) How can God be glorified through this experience?

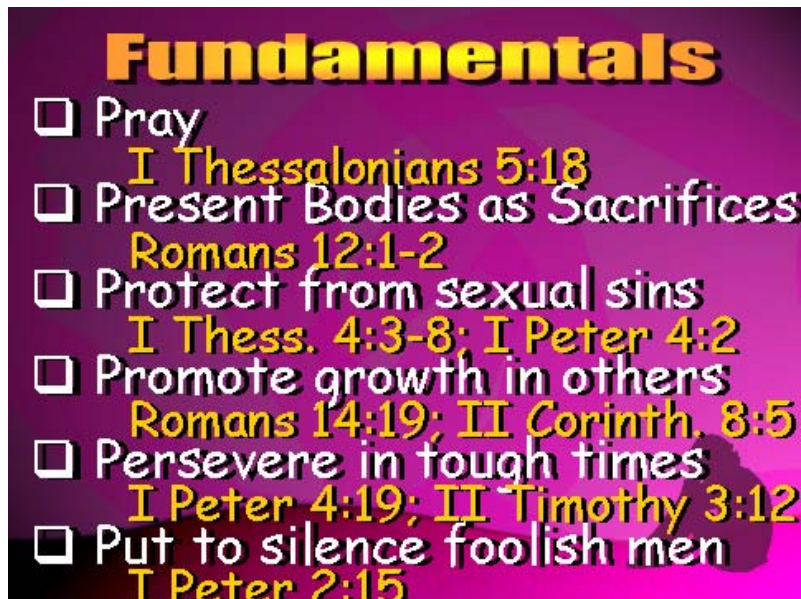
**\*\*\* We must remember that everyone suffers losses and failures... It is not whether or not that you will suffer loss, it is whether or not you will let your losses stop you going on to victory.**

## **II. Decisions** – “which of these two thou hast chosen” (vs. 21-26)

*We must learn to make decisions based on :*

**A. Fundamentals Values** – “Wherefore of these men” *principles from which other truths can be derived*

*Relationships*  
*Ministry*  
*Witness*



**B. Flexibility - Options** - “whether of these two”  
*willing or disposed to yield*

- Two good options
- Both Ordained “appointed” by Disciples
- Which had God chosen is the question?

**C. Faith** - “they gave forth their lots”  
*Confident belief in the truth, value, or trustworthiness of a person,*

*What if the Bible does not speak directly about this decision?*  
**Romans 14:** - Tells us when in doubt ...Don't

*We must believe in a God of design and purpose not chance. We must believe that God wants us to know His will as expressed in His Word and understood by the work and leading of the Spirit.*

- *Was not a popularity vote – notice no vote taken – but appointed by leadership*
- *Was about the candidates heart not abilities or popularity.*
- *They were unable to discern which man because the Holy Spirit was not given yet.*
- *It was not a vote and it was not gambling, but it was a desire to know God's will and they depended on the lot being cast by faith.*