



## Chosen, Called, and Sent

Scripture: Mark 3:13-19  
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Jesus Calls People to Himself Before Sending Them Out

Mark 3:13-14

"He called to Him those He Himself wanted..."

"That they might be with Him and that He might send them out..."

Notice the order:

1. Be with Him
2. Learn from Him
3. Be sent out by Him

Relationship precedes ministry.

God wants you before He wants your service. Ministry should flow from intimacy with God.

**It's dangerous to get this out of order.**

Matthew 7:21-23

Application

Many want the platform without the process.

Quote:

A desire to preach, w/out a desire to study/prepare, is a desire to perform"

Real ministry should overflow from a heart that is connected to Jesus.

Jesus first develops intimacy before assigning ministry or leadership responsibility.

**God's greatest priority is not what we do for Him but our relationship with Him.**

"The minister is more important to God than the ministry"

Jesus Chooses Ordinary People

Matthew 10:2-4

Vs.2-4

Names of the 12 :

1. Simon, who is called Peter. Impetuous, very relatable disciple .
2. James, the son of Zebedee, who was later killed by Herod (Act 12:2)-the first of the twelve to die as a martyr.(half of the sons of thunder)
3. John, his brother. Also a son of Zebedee, he was the disciple whom Jesus loved. We are indebted to him for the Fourth Gospel, three Epistles, and Revelation. (Second half of the sons of thunder)
4. Andrew, his brother. He was introduced to Jesus by John the Baptist (Joh 1:36, Joh 1:40-42), then brought his brother Peter to Him. He made it his business there after to bring men to Jesus.
5. Philip. A citizen of Bethsaida, he brought Nathanael to Jesus ( John 1:43-47). He is not to be confused with Philip the Evangelist, in the book of Acts.
6. Bartholomew. Believed to be the same as Nathanael, the Israelite in whom Jesus found no guile (Joh 1:47).
7. Matthew. The former tax-collector who wrote this Gospel.
8. Thomas, also called Didymus, meaning "twin." Commonly known as "Doubting Thomas," his doubts gave way to a magnificent confession of Christ (John 20:28).
9. James, the son of Alphaeus. Little else is definitely known about him.
10. Thaddaeus. He is also known as Judas the son of James (Luk 6:16). His only recorded utterance is found in Joh 14:22.
11. Simon, the Canaanite, whom Luke calls the Zealot (Luk 6:15).
12. Judas Iscariot, the betrayer of our Lord.

The disciples were probably in their twenties at this time.

Look at the list:

- Fishermen
- Tax collector
- Political zealot
- Common laborers

No religious elite.

No priests.

No rabbis.

No political leaders.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

"For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence."

God often chooses unlikely people so He receives the glory.

Your background does not guarantee or hinder your usefulness to God.

Jesus specializes in using ordinary people.

God doesn't usually call the qualified but He qualifies the called.

**Check out the diversity in this group:**

Among the disciples were:

Matthew:

- A tax collector.
- A Jew who Worked for Rome.
- Despised by Jews.

Simon the Zealot:

- A political revolutionary.
- Hated Roman rule.

Matthew and Simon would have been enemies before meeting Jesus.

Yet Jesus united them on the same team.

The gospel is powerful enough to unite people with vastly different backgrounds.

- Christ breaks down walls of division.

- Peter, Andrew, James and John were making money doing something they were good at. James and John were probably expected to carry on the family business. They left behind something of value on earth to pursue something of eternal value.

there may be some here today that God is calling to lay something earthly down to pursue something eternal.

**Jesus Gives Power Along With Purpose**

Matthew 10:1

"He gave them authority..."

Mark 3:14

"Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:"

Jesus doesn't just send us out

He empowers us for the task

**God never calls us to do something without providing what is needed.**

- He gives spiritual gifts.
- He gives grace.
- He gives strength.
- He gives wisdom.

The calling comes with divine enablement.

Peter didn't have education, but he had divine enablement from being with Jesus:

Acts 4:13

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus."

**God's Calling Does Not Eliminate Human Responsibility**

One of the names on the list is Judas Iscariot.

Luke 6:16

"Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor:"

Jesus knew Judas would betray Him.

Yet Judas still had responsibility for his choices.

Important Observation

Being close to Jesus is not the same as being surrendered to Jesus.

Judas experienced:

- The miracles
- The teaching
- The ministry

Yet his heart remained unchanged.

Judas couldn't have been any closer, yet he still didn't surrender to Christ.

Being around the things of God is not the same as having a relationship where you surrender to Him as Lord.

Church attendance and ministry involvement do not replace genuine faith and obedience.

**Jesus Builds His Kingdom Through People**

The future of the church rested in twelve imperfect men.

Peter would fail.

Thomas would doubt.

James and John would be overly ambitious.

Matthew had a questionable past.

Yet Jesus used them all.

God does not wait until people are perfect before using them.

He uses willing people and transforms them along the way.

Three Practical Applications:

1. Seek God before major decisions

Jesus prayed all night before choosing the Twelve.

2. Prioritize being with Jesus before working for Jesus

Ministry flows from intimacy.

3. Trust God to use ordinary people

If Jesus could use fishermen and tax collectors, He can use us.

Peter, James and John: Matthew 4:19-21

Then He said to them (Peter and Andrew), "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Jesus called him to be a fisher of men. Nothing wrong with fishing unless God has called you to save souls instead.

Don't miss what God has called you to because you are good at something else.

Peter would see 3000 come to Christ the first time he preached in Acts 2:41

Andrew brought people to Jesus one at a time:

- After hearing John the Baptist identify Jesus as the "Lamb of God," Andrew spent the day with Jesus and became convinced He was the Messiah. He immediately found his brother, Simon, and brought him to Jesus, who then gave Simon the name Peter. (John 1:40-42)

- When Jesus was teaching a vast crowd and needed food, Andrew found a young boy who had five small barley loaves and two small fish. He brought the boy and his lunch to Jesus, creating the opportunity for the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000. (John 6:8-9)

- During the Passover festival, a group of Gentile Greeks approached Philip asking to see Jesus, Philip told Andrew, and together the two disciples brought the request—and the individuals—to Jesus. (John 12:20-22)

**They had to let go of something they were previously doing or pursuing to avail themselves to Gods plan for their lives.**

James and John left their dad's fishing business. They didn't just leave fishing and the family business but they left their father.

Matthew 4:21-22

"Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him."

**Conclusion:**

The story of the Twelve is really a story of God's grace.

Jesus:

- Chose them before they were ready.
- Loved them despite their flaws.
- Equipped them for ministry.
- Sent them to change the world.

And Jesus still does the same today.

**Closing Challenge**

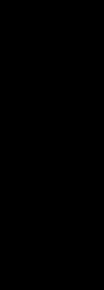
Ask the congregation:

- Have I answered Christ's call to follow Him?
- Am I spending time with Him before serving Him?
- Am I willing to be used by God regardless of my background or limitations?

The same Jesus who called the Twelve is still calling people today

—ordinary people who are willing to:

- be with Him,
- become like Him,
- and be sent out by Him.



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