

John 12:26 Whoever serves me must follow me.



Definitions

Disciples: Learner or Student

Apostle: Messenger or Sent One

In common:

2 Sets of BROTHERS :

PETER & Andrew.

James & JOHN .

At least 6 FISHERMEN .

All Jewish MEN .

STUDENTS of the scriptures.

Contrast:

All PASSED-OVER .

Tempers and SELFISH AMBITION .

CONFLICTING backgrounds.

All DESERTED in His GREAST HOUR of need.

In the end..

NAMES written on 12 gates.

Take Away...

1. Common MEN - FAITHFUL God. -John 15:16

2. Jesus calls us to a RADICAL COMMITMENT . It's not always COMFORTABLE to follow. -Jn 9:20-23; Matt. 8:20

3. Are you DUSTY ? -John 12:26

It All Belongs to God "The Story of the Promise" #5- Noah Largent 8/16/09

Matthew 10:2-4

Peter
Andrew
James
John

Philip
Bartholomew
(surname Nathanael)
Thomas
Matthew

James
(son of Alphaeus)
Thaddeus
Simon
Judas Iscariot

What Does Following Jesus Look Like?

#1 — A follower of Jesus has a passion to know and serve Jesus – or at least has no other options.

Luke 18:18 – 23 — ¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’”

²¹ “All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.

#2 — Followers of Jesus fearlessly identify with him– no closet disciples.

John 9:20 – 23 — ²⁰ “We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. ²¹ But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

John 11:48 — “If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our position and our nation.”

#3 — Followers of Jesus conduct themselves in such a way that their good behavior stands out in a corrupt world.

Luke 3: 12 – 14 — ² Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³ He replied, “Collect no more taxes than the government requires.”

¹⁴ “What should we do?” asked some soldiers. John replied, “Don’t extort money or make false accusations. And be content with your pay.” Jesus says the same thing to the Roman Centurion Luke 7:1 – 10

Do some reading and connect some dots: Matthew 8:5 – 10; Luke 7:1 – 10, 29; John 6:66 – 69; John 8 – 11; Exodus 22:1; 23:1; Leviticus 6:4 & 5; 19:4; Numbers 5:7; 2 Samuel 12:6

Further Reading: *Twelve Ordinary Men* by John MacArthur; *The Training of the Twelve* by A.B. Bruce; *The Search for the Twelve Apostles* by William S. McBirnie.