



# *The Apostles*

ORIGIN STORY

THE CALLING OF THE TWELVE

# The Origin of The Twelve

They did not start  
as “Apostles”

They were called  
into discipleship  
FIRST

Seven men were  
specifically chosen  
to be disciples

Five were chosen  
by Jesus out of  
the crowds

They were given a  
specific purpose  
as part of Jesus’  
ministry



## Disciple – Definition

- ◇ Comes from the Hebrew *Hanakh*
  - ◇ “to make narrow, dedicate, train”
  - ◇ Often used in the sense of a military training

When Abraham heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

Genesis 14:14 ESV



Train up a child in the way he  
should go;

Even when he is old he will not  
depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6 ESV

# The Calling of the First Six

They didn't stumble upon Yeshua of Nazareth teaching in the streets of the Kingdom of God

He came to them and called them out to be disciples

Thereby giving them a very specific origin story



# The Calling of the First Six

## John 1:36-39

- (1) Andrew and (2) John, the son of Zebedee

## John 1:40-45

- (3) Simon Peter, (4) Philip, (5) Nathaniel (aka Bartholomew)

## John does NOT contradict Mark & Luke's account

- Peter, Andrew, and John are named disciples in John's account first
- BUT they have not been called into full-time discipleship

## Mark & Luke record the second calling of these men

- This time Jesus is calling them away from their nets and into full-time service

## Mark 1:16-20

- Records the full time calling of Simon, Andrew, and John
- Adds a new member to the group, (6) James

# The Calling of the Seventh - Levi

Luke 5:27-28

- Matthew (Levi) is called into full time discipleship

Matthew was a publican or tax collector

- This position was illegal to hold by Jewish law of the day
- One would have had to bid or pay for the position
- Publicans typically made a lot of money

Jesus is asking him to resign, forsake his livelihood, and to trust Jesus

- Of which he does





*"Follow me"*

- Jesus of Nazareth



# The Twelve are Chosen

- ◇ With the first seven full-time disciples in tow
  - ◇ Jesus begins to travel, teach and gain a larger following of disciples
- ◇ He eventually chooses twelve that are specifically called to be apostles
  - ◇ And to serve in His ministry full-time
- ◇ These become known as “The Twelve”



## What is an “Apostle”?

- ◇ Comes from the Greek *Apostolos*
  - ◇ Someone or something sent
- ◇ Derived from the verb *apostellein*
  - ◇ To send out
- ◇ Commonly used to refer to someone sent as an authorized agent by Jesus to the Christian community

# Disciple/Apostle... What's the difference?

## Disciples

- “on call” or coming and going as they please

## Apostles

- Were called to fulfill a specific role as part of Jesus's ministry

## The Twelve had two high-level missions

### During the life of Christ:

- They acted as His authorized representatives to the House of Israel

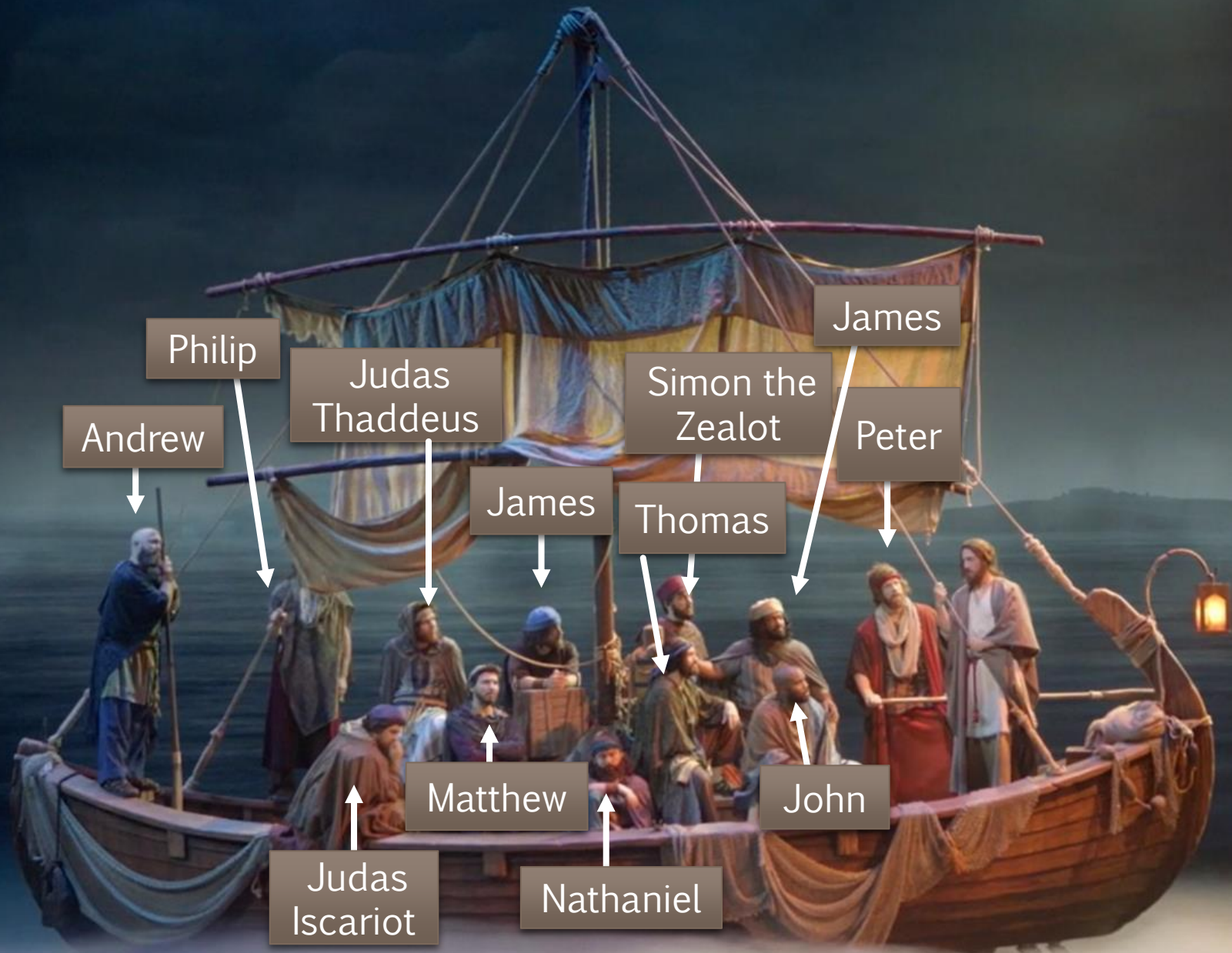
### After the resurrection:

- They are His authorized representatives to all nations and to be eyewitnesses of the resurrection



In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Luke 6:12-16 ESV



Andrew

Philip

Judas Thaddeus

Simon the Zealot

James

Peter

James

Thomas

Matthew

John

Judas Iscariot

Nathaniel



# The Mission During the Life of Christ

To be in full-time service to Jesus and to be with Him

To be sent out to preach about Jesus and the Kingdom

They were given authority to work miracles as evidence for their claims

What truths  
united the  
apostles?

For I delivered to you as of first  
importance what I also received: that  
Christ died for our sins in accordance  
with the Scriptures, that he was buried,  
and that he was raised on the third  
day in accordance with the Scriptures

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 ESV