

James

So far:

Simon Peter – The High/Highs & Low Lows (Even in his name) & Repentance & Restoration

Andrew – Always bringing and introducing people to Jesus!

Tonight - James

List of Disciples/Apostles:

Matthew 10:2-4²Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

Mark 3:16-18¹⁶Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, “Sons of Thunder”; ¹⁸Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite;

Luke 6:14-16¹⁴Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; ¹⁶Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

Acts 1:13¹³And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James.

1. Info from the Lists

* Always mentioned in the grouping of the first Four with: Simon Peter, Andrew & John

* Eldest Brother of John – His name is always mentioned first, except once. (Lk – Mt. Transfiguration)

His First Encounter –

Not among those who met Jesus in John Chapter 1. (Andrew, Simon Peter; Philip, Nathanael & Most people believe John (James’ brother) to be the other of the two Disciples of John the Baptist)

Mark 1:16-20¹⁶And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁷Then Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” ¹⁸They immediately left their nets and followed Him. ¹⁹When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. ²⁰And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him. (Matthew 4:18-20)

Mark 1:29 (After Jesus heals the man in Capernaum Synagogue with unclean spirit) ²⁹Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

Luke 5:9-11⁹For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.” ¹¹So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

2. James was Called to Follow & Be Transformed by Jesus

* He was first influenced by his brother and/or his closest friends whose lives were radically impacted by Jesus!

Proverbs 12:26²⁶The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

* It was no doubt Simon Peter, Andrew and his own brother John who led him to the Lord!

Application –

1. The lives around us, our kids, grandkids will influence them. Who is choosing their friends.
2. Jesus’ impact in our lives can and will impact those around us! The lives around us will...

3. Experienced Life with Christ!!!

* Saw the Raising of Jarius' Daughter

Mark 5:35-43 ³⁵While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" ³⁶As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe." ³⁷And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ³⁸Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly. ³⁹When He came in, He said to them, "Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping." ⁴⁰And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying. ⁴¹Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, "Talitha, cumi," which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴²Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years of age. And they were overcome with great amazement. ⁴³But He commanded them strictly that no one should know it, and said that something should be given her to eat. (Matt 9:18-26; Lk 8:49-56)

* James Saw Jesus transformed on the Mt. of Transfiguration

Luke 9:28-36 ²⁸Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening. ³⁰And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him. ³³Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" ³⁶When the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet, and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen. (Matt 16:28-17:9; Mark 9:1-9)

* James Heard Jesus Explanation of Eschatology (End Times)!!!

Mark 13:1-4 ¹Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" ²And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down." ³Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, ⁴"Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?"

* James Experienced Jesus' Deepest, Distressing Time on Earth

Mark 14:32-34 ³²Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. ³⁴Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch."

4. Had a Cool Nickname – One of the "Sons of Thunder"

Mark 3:13-17 ¹³And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. ¹⁴Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, ¹⁵and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: ¹⁶Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; ¹⁷James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder";

* That is a cool nickname! – At first – But it's actually from Aramaic words – Son & Rage!

* These two brothers had an anger management problem.

Luke 9:51-56 ⁵¹Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, ⁵²and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. ⁵³But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?” ⁵⁵But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. ⁵⁶For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.” And they went to another village.

* Interesting thing is – Jesus knew it before he chose them! He even prayed about it all night before choosing!

* He/They are not the only ones with this Character Trait/Flaw:

* Ever hear of a guy by the name of Moses? Killed/Egyptian, Broke 10 Commandments, Struck the Rock...

* Ever hear of a guy named Saul/Paul?

Acts 8:3 ³As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.

Acts 9:1-2 ¹Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

* Opposite side of the Spectrum – Abraham – Father of Faith – Lacked faith big time – twice – Lied about Sarah being his wife, to save himself!!!

Application –

1. Yes, we have character flaws! No, they do not disqualify us from being chosen/saved/chosen vessels!

5. Got What He Asked For!

* **Bad – Suffered the persecution that Jesus told him of!**

* **Good – He gained the Life that Jesus told him of!**

Mark 10:35-45 ³⁵Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask.” ³⁶And He said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?” ³⁷They said to Him, “Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They said to Him, “We are able.” So Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. ⁴²But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. ⁴⁴And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

(Matthew 20:20-21 attributes their mother first asking Jesus to allow her sons to sit on his left and right in his kingdom)

Acts 12:1-2 ¹Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. ²Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

* Herod the king = Herod Agrippa/Grandson of Herod the Great; Brother of Herod Antipas

* King Herod (John 6:14) = Beheaded who? John the Baptist

- Suffered the death that Jesus had told him

Matthew 16:24-26 ²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

* James became the first Christian Martyr! The first man to give his life for Jesus and for others!

Application – **2 Timothy 3:12-15** ¹²Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. ... ¹⁴But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, ¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

* At the end of the day/life – I don't think James was wishing he would have stayed fishing!!!