

Jesus calls us! How do we answer? Call Stories

Mark 1:16-20 Jesus **calls** Peter/Andrew, James/John while they work/fish (Mk 1:16–20; Lk 5:1–11; Mt 4:18–22)

Mark 2:13-14 “Once again Jesus went out along the sea. All the crowd came to him and he taught them. As he passed by, he saw Levi, son of Alphaeus, sitting at the customs post. He said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.” Mk 2:14–17; Lk 5:27–32 Mt 9:9

Jesus gathered and called ‘Twelve’ Mark 3:13-19 “He went up the mountain and **summoned** those whom he wanted and they came to him. He appointed **twelve** [whom he also **named apostles**] that they might be with him and he might send them forth to preach and to have authority to drive out demons: [he appointed the twelve:] Simon, whom he named Peter; James, son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James, whom he named Boanerges, that is, sons of thunder; Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddeus, Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.”

Mark 6:7 “He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits”

Parallel Passages Matt 10:1-4, Luke 6:12-16 (**Luke** adds a prep period of prayer before calling)

Names of 12 Apostles (Who is Who?)

Matthew 10:2-4 “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; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.”

Mark 3:15-19 “He appointed the twelve: Simon (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); Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.”

Luke 6:13-16 “And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

John 21:2 “Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee’s sons, and two others of his disciples.” Seven Disciples-Apostles? Are the two unnamed- Philip and Andrew Pair from John 1:40, 1:43-44, & John 12:22?

John does use the phrase **‘The Twelve’** in John 6:67, 70 & 71.

Obviously not mentioned here is Judas Iscariot – Jn 6:71 “He was referring to Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot; it was he who would betray him, one of the Twelve.”

But another Judas named in John 14:22 **“Judas, not the Iscariot,** said to him, “Master, then what happened that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?”

Philip Passages John 6:5-8, 12:21-22, 14:8-10 ---Thomas Passages John 11:16, 14:5,20:24-28, 21:2

Brothers James & John are never named such, only called 'sons of Zebedee' in Jn 21:2

Clarifying details from Tradition to help identify the Apostles with aliases: Levi is understood to be Matthew, Bartholomew is also called Nathaniel, & Jude is also called Thaddeus

Related or not? Mark 3:13-19 has call of Twelve, and end of chapter 3 tells of '**broader family**'

Mark 3:31-35 "His mother and his brothers arrived. Standing outside they sent word to him and called him. A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you." But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, **"Here are my mother and my brothers.** For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Jesus tells Peter to strengthen 'your brothers...' Luke 22:31-32 "Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers."

Jesus tells Mary Magdalene 'go tell my brothers..' John 20:17 "But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Other Significant Calls – not apostles but other call encounters

Luke 19:5-6 call of Zacchaeus "When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy."

Mark 10:21-22 Rich Young Man "Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, "You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to [the] poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions." Parallels Mt 19:16–30; Lk 18:18–30.

Another Call, like but unlike the apostles – Paul

Romans 1:1-2 " Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, ***called to be an apostle*** and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy scriptures,"

Galatians 1:15-16 "But when [God], who from my mother's womb had ***set me apart and called me*** through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, I so that I might proclaim him to the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult flesh and blood,..."

1 Cor 15:5-9 "that Jesus appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, ***as to one born abnormally***, he appeared to me. ***For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle***, because I persecuted the church of God.

Acts 1:21-26 "Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection." So they proposed two,

Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show **which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry** from which Judas turned away to go to his own place." Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was **counted with the eleven apostles.**"

Acts Chapter 10 **Cornelius'** Call is an unusual Story (Cornelius knows all details about Peter through a vision but Peter doesn't until he meets Cornelius)

Acts 9: 10-12 **Ananias** "There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias, and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight and ask at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is there praying, and [in a vision] he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay [his] hands on him, that he may regain his sight."

Women Disciples in Fellowship

Luke 8:1-3 "Afterward he journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, Susanna, and many others who provided for them out of their resources."

Luke 23: 49 "but all **his acquaintances** stood at a distance, including **the women who had followed him** from Galilee and saw these events."

Luke 23:55-56 "The **women who had come from Galilee with him** followed behind, and when they had seen the tomb and the way in which his body was laid in it, they returned and prepared spices & perfumed oils. They rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment."

More Details on at least One of the Marys

John 11:1-3 "Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill. So **the sisters sent word to him, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill."** They knew Jesus well enough to call Him.

John 12:1-3 "Six days before Passover Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **They gave a dinner for him** there, and Martha served, while Lazarus was one of those reclining at table with him. Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil made from genuine aromatic nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair; the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil."

Lazarus John 12:9-10 "The large crowd of the Jews found out that he was there and came, **not only because of Jesus, but also to see Lazarus**, whom he had raised from the dead. And the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus too...."

John 11:11 "He said this, and then told them, "**Our friend Lazarus is asleep**, but I am going to awaken him." Good Question: Lazarus: Is he an apostle, disciple, friend? What is the connection between Lazarus & Jesus? How did Jesus meet Lazarus (one loved, wept for & friend?)