

Jesus forming His 12

Date: 29 June 2025
Passage: Mark 3:13-19
Theme: Gospel of Mark

Mark 3

Jesus Appoints the Twelve

¹³ Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.

¹⁴ He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach

¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons.

¹⁶ These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter),

¹⁷ James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means “sons of thunder”),

¹⁸ Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him

12 Disciples

Simon (Peter)

Andrew (his brother)

James (son of Zebedee)

John (his brother)

Philip

Bartolomew

Thomas

Matthew (the publican)

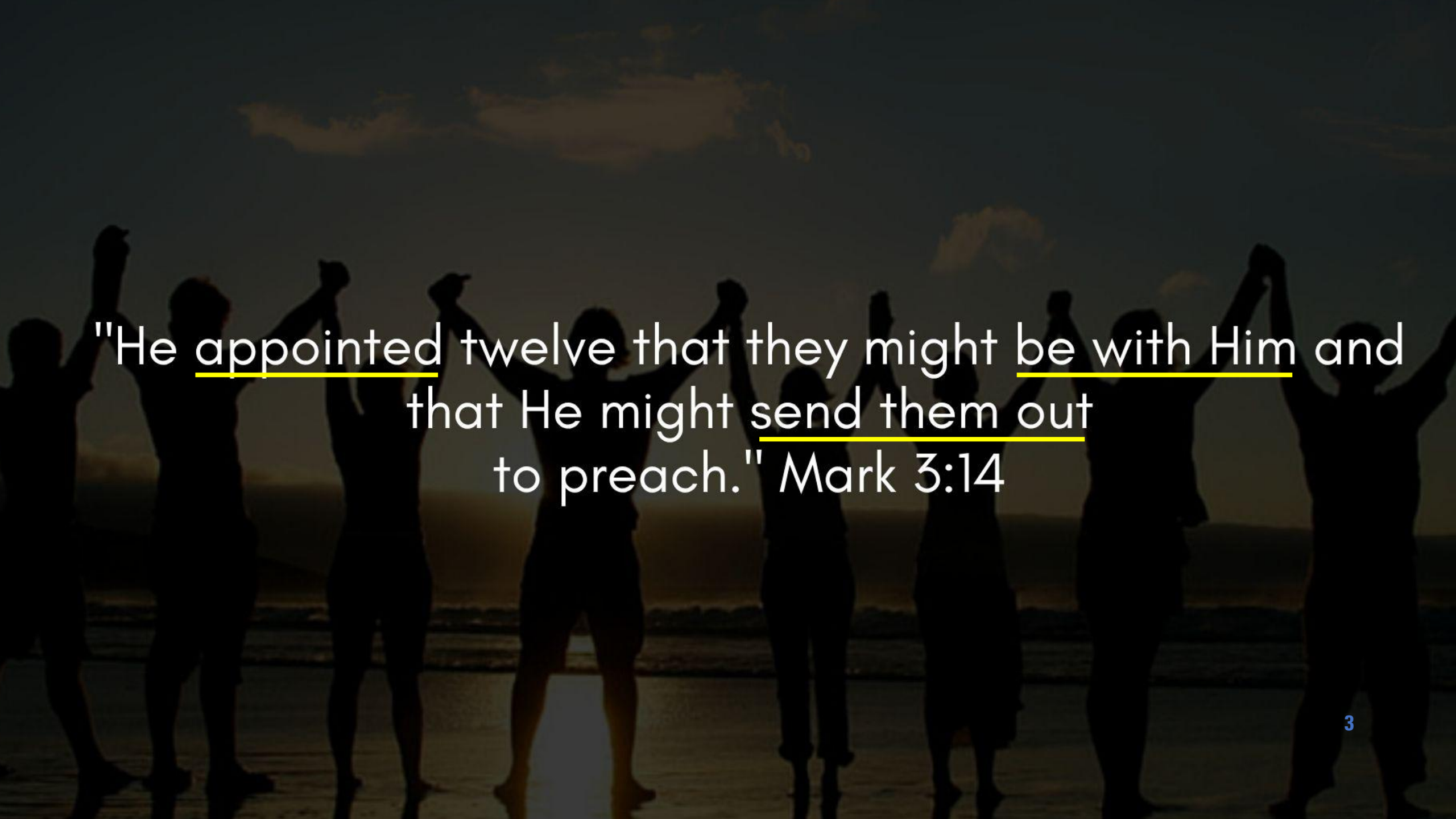
James (son of Alphaeus)

Lebbaeus (Thaddaeus)

Simon (the canaanite)

Judas Iscariot (Betrayed Jesus)



A group of people are silhouetted against a bright sunset or sunrise sky. They are standing on a beach or near water, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or celebration. The sky is filled with soft, glowing clouds. The overall mood is one of joy and spiritual uplift.

"He appointed twelve that they might be with Him and
that He might send them out
to preach." Mark 3:14

Mark Chapter 3 Summary



Mark Chapter 3 highlights the Healing on The Sabbath, Appointing of the Twelve Apostles, Beelzebul, and Jesus' True Family

'With Him' is a discipling principle He practiced.

In Mark 3:14, Jesus takes a significant step further by selecting and appointing 12 men *“that they might be **with him**”*.

BC third core value:

I am a disciple and I make disciples

– *“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”*
(John 15:8)

1 (a) Is Appointing any different from Calls to follow?

Call vs. Appointment

In *Mark 1&2* Jesus shows us the call for everyone to follow

But in *Mark 3:13-14*, it was an invitation to the '*select*', and upon their acceptance, Jesus appointed them.

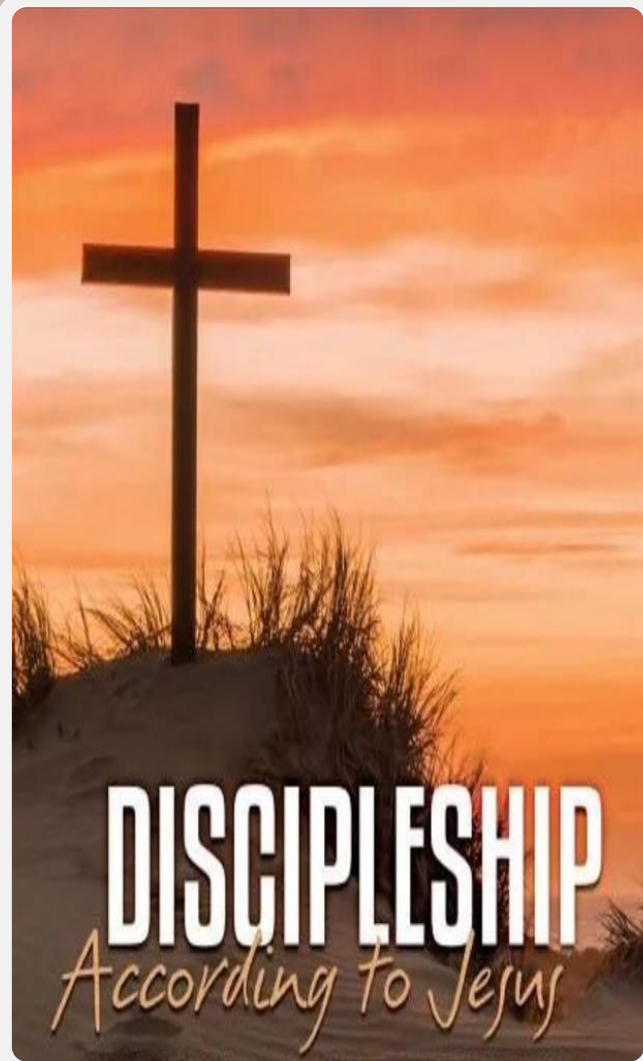
The appointment of the Twelve in *Mark 3:14* is a specific invitation to become part of His team.



1 (b) Appointing the Disciples

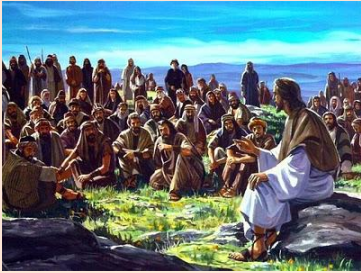
The purpose of Jesus appointing the 'Twelve' was twofold:

(i) The ***"be with him"*** principle of disciple making (vs14)

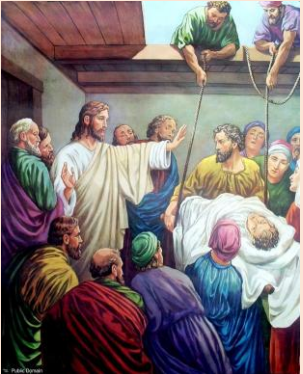


- The disciples avail themselves to Jesus, learning from Him and ascribing to His teachings.
- Jesus shows how He develops His 12 by:
 - Building strong relationships.
 - Mentoring
 - Modelling
 - Building spiritual habits
 - Practical training: witnessing and reproducing disciples

(ii) *"send them out" to:*



Preach



Heal



Drive out demons"

(Mark 3:10,14-15)

1 (b) Appointing the Disciples

- Jesus preaches the gospel of the kingdom (Mark 1:14-15)
- Jesus teaches parables by the sea (Mark 4:1-34)
- Jesus teaches the crowds about the kingdom (Mark 6:30-34)

- A paralytic (Mark 2:1-12)
- A man with a withered hand (Mark 3:1-6)
- A blind man at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26)

- Evil spirit in synagogue (Mark 1:21-28)
- Many demons cast out (Mark 1:34)
- Legion of demons in Gerasenes (Mark 5:1-20)

2 (a) Jesus Chose His Twelve

- Jesus prayed all night

*"One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God."
(Luke 6:12)*

- Jesus "wanted" them (vs13)

"Jesus went (climbed) up on a mountainside and called (invited) to him those He wanted..." (vs13)

- Availability

Those He called "came to him" (vs13), indicating their AVAILABILITY and willingness to follow Him.

These 12 must be willing to be "*with Him*". To be available, both He and His 12 must set "*with Him*" time a priority.

2 (b) Who did Jesus call to be His Twelve?

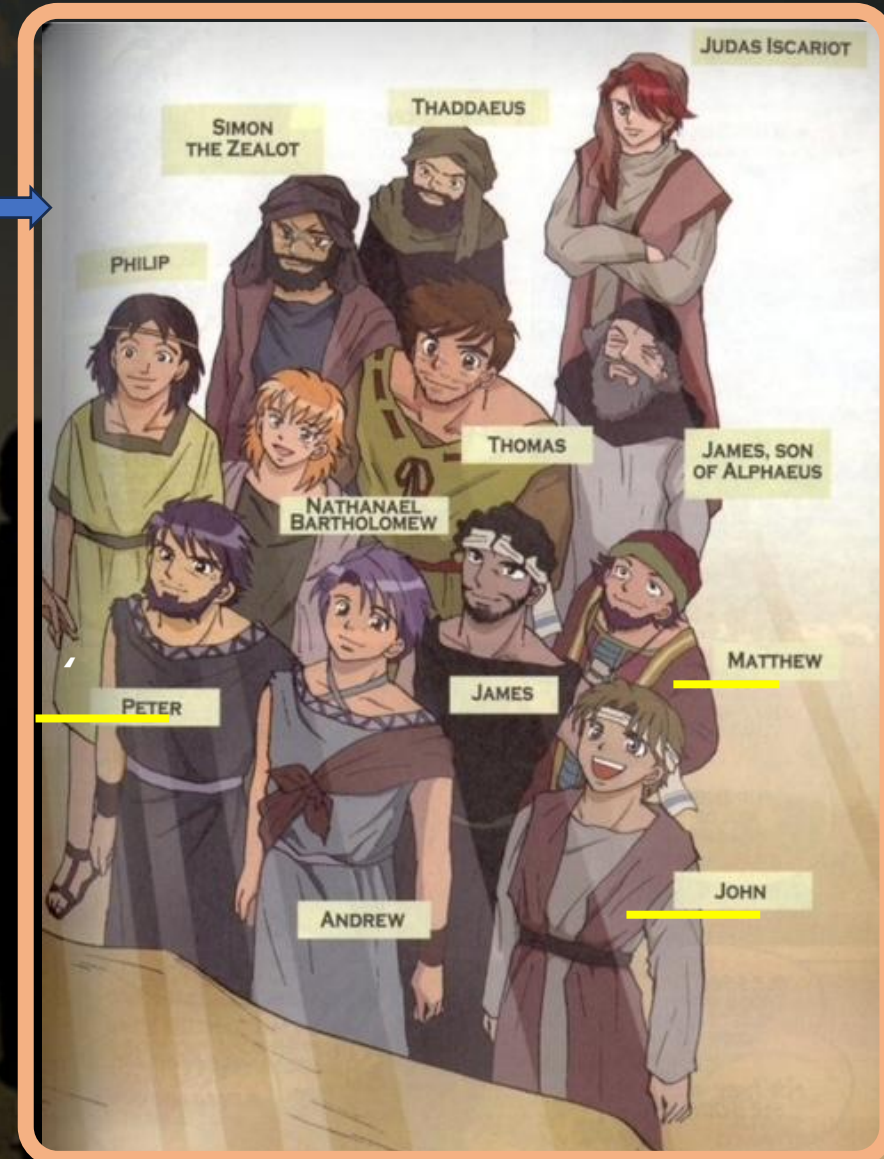
- Jesus selected 'ordinary' men

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¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him



3. What can we learn from Jesus' selection of the Twelve?

a) Key Takeaways

- We must 'want' our twelve

Make a commitment to be available and to be with our own mentors to learn how.

- Have a clear desire to select and invest in our 'twelve' for disciple-making.

- Pray

- > Seek God's guidance and wisdom in decision-making, just like Jesus did.
- Be intentional in selecting our 'twelve' and start the chain of spiritual generations.
- > Start with one.

3 (b) The selection process reveals 3 Key Principles



MAKING DISCIPLES

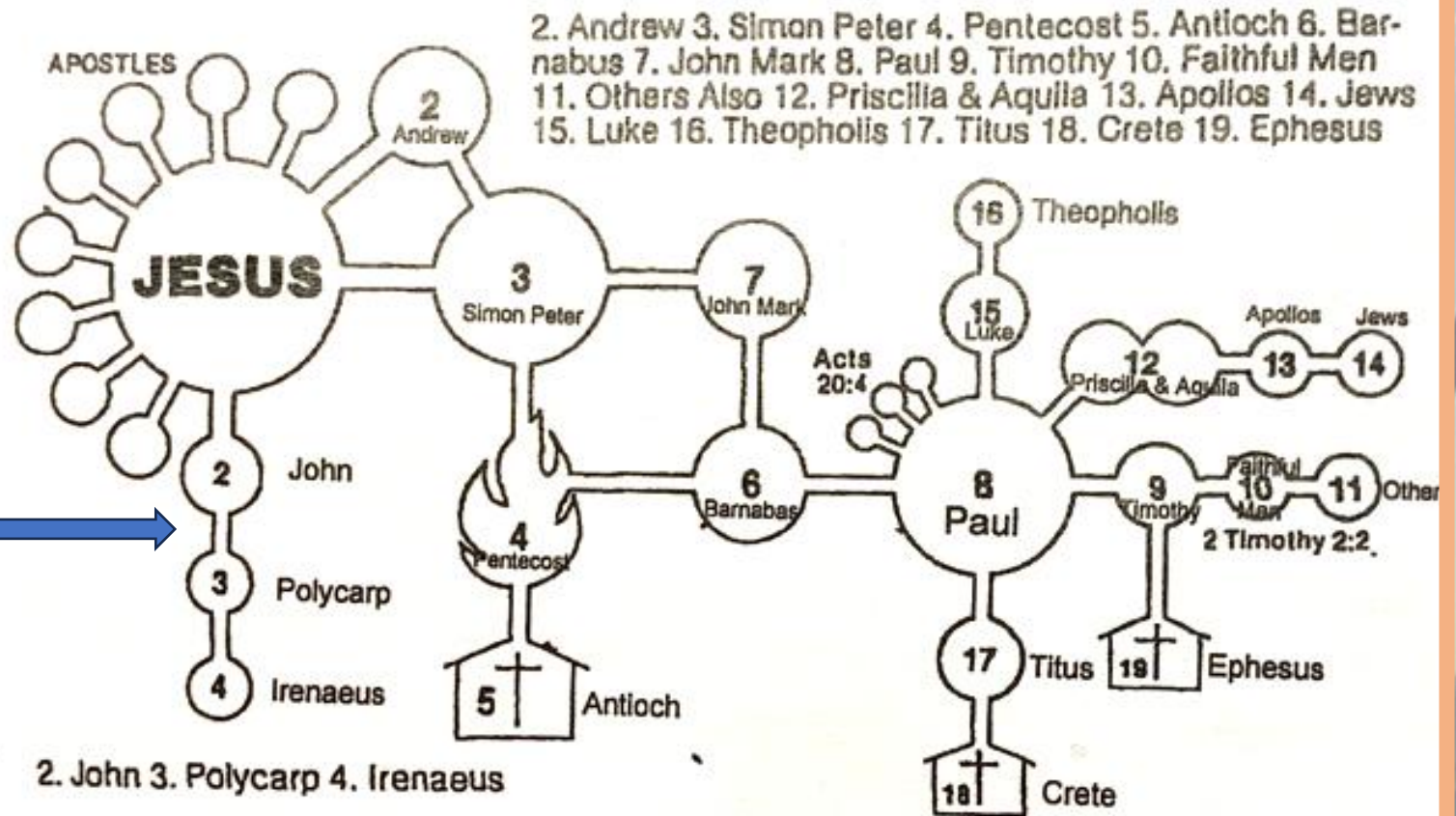
- **Availability:**
a precondition for ministry.
- **Believe that 'ordinary' people can be empowered**
- **To be 'sent out':**
The goal to set - each disciple to reach out and make disciples, continuing the 'chain of spiritual generations'.

- They were 'Sent Out'
- After Jesus' Ascension, the disciples fanned out and started the early church.
- An example:
The 'chain of spiritual generations' starting with John:

Jesus disciples John:

-> John disciples Polycarp (*an early Christian bishop*)

-> Polycarp disciples Irenaeus, *...all great leaders of faith.*



Source: *Multiplying Disciples* pg 38 by Waylon B. Moore.

- Jesus disciples Peter. He disciples Mark, who then disciples others in the early Christian community, such as those in Alexandria or Rome

Jesus appears to Paul (Saul of Tarsus) on the road to Damascus, called him & sent Ananias to pray healing

- Paul disciples Timothy
- Timothy disciples others, such as those in Ephesus or other regions

Jesus disciples and sends them out

Jesus disciples Thomas (brought Christianity to India)
- Thomas disciples Thaddeus, and sent him to preach the Gospel in Edessa (a city in modern-day Turkey)
- Thaddeus disciples others in the region of Edessa and further east.

A group of people are silhouetted against a sunset sky, holding hands and raising them in a gesture of unity or celebration. The scene is set on a beach with waves visible in the background.

Application

1. Why should you seek your 12 disciples?
2. How do you intend to look for them?