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# Lenten Bible Study

## The Personalities of Lent

Lesson #4 – Peter, James, & John



**Tuesday, March 29, 2022**

**Online Bible Study**

Zoom Meeting ID 973 678 1217, Passcode 6781293

## I. THIS LENTEN BIBLE STUDY SERIES

1. Tuesday, March 8 - The Woman with the Alabaster Jar/Box ✓
2. Tuesday, March 15 - Judas Iscariot ✓
3. Tuesday, March 22 - Simon Peter ✓
- 4. Tuesday, March 29 - Peter, James, & John - TONIGHT**
5. Tuesday, April 5 - Caiaphas, Herod, Annas
6. Tuesday, April 12 (Holy Week) - Pontius Pilate, his wife, & Barabbas

## II. REV. MJ'S EXTENSIVE STUDY OF SIMON PETER LAST WEEK

- A. Download notes from the church website if you have not done so already, [www.stmatthewame.org](http://www.stmatthewame.org)
- B. Extensive review of Peter. No need to repeat

## III. WHO THEY WERE INDIVIDUALLY

- A. Already know about Peter
- B. James
  - Son of Zebedee and brother of John, probably the older brother because his name is usually mentioned first. Also known as “James the Greater” (at least 3 other James’ in the early church; James, son of Alphaeus, James the Just)
  - First a disciple, then an apostle
  - Was a fisherman
  - Possible that James’ mother, Salome, was a sister of Mary, Jesus’ mother, which would have meant that James and Jesus were cousins

<sup>55</sup> Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. <sup>56</sup> Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph,<sup>[f]</sup> and the mother of Zebedee’s sons. – Matthew 27:55-56

<sup>40</sup> Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph,<sup>[d]</sup> and Salome. <sup>41</sup> In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there. – Mark 15:40-41

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of

Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. – John 19:25

- Nicknamed with John, the “sons of thunder.”

<sup>16</sup> These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), <sup>17</sup> James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means “sons of thunder”), <sup>18</sup> Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot <sup>19</sup> and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. – Mark 3:16-19

- Had a stormy temper, struggled with selfishness, and misunderstood Jesus’ purpose

<sup>51</sup> As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them<sup>[b]</sup>?” <sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then he and his disciples went to another village. – Luke 9:51-56

<sup>35</sup> Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.” <sup>36</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked. <sup>37</sup> They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.” <sup>38</sup> “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?” <sup>39</sup> “We can,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, <sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.” – Mark 10:35-40

- The first apostle to be killed for his faith

<sup>1</sup> It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. <sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. – Acts 12:1-2

### C. John

- Not John the Baptist, although he was one of John the Baptist's disciples before following Jesus
- Not the Father of Simon Peter, also known as Jona or Jonah
- Not the relative of Caiaphas who sat on the Sanhedrin Council (Acts 4:6)
- Not the nephew of Barnabas known as John Mark
- An eyewitness to Jesus' life and ministry
- Named himself, "the disciple whom Jesus loved" He was Jesus' cousin. The second of the two "sons of thunder." No explanation as to why Jesus gave him/them that name.
- Mentioned by name in every gospel except the one named after him

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") – John 21:20

- A fisherman
- John and Peter were selected to prepare the Last Supper
- The one to whom Jesus entrusted his mother, Mary
- The first to race to the tomb once the disciples heard about the Resurrection
- Author of 5 New Testament books
- Arrested for healing in Jesus' name and preaching boldly

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup> They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand. – Acts 4:1-4

- Loved Jesus and Jesus loved him.
- Exiled to the island of Patmos

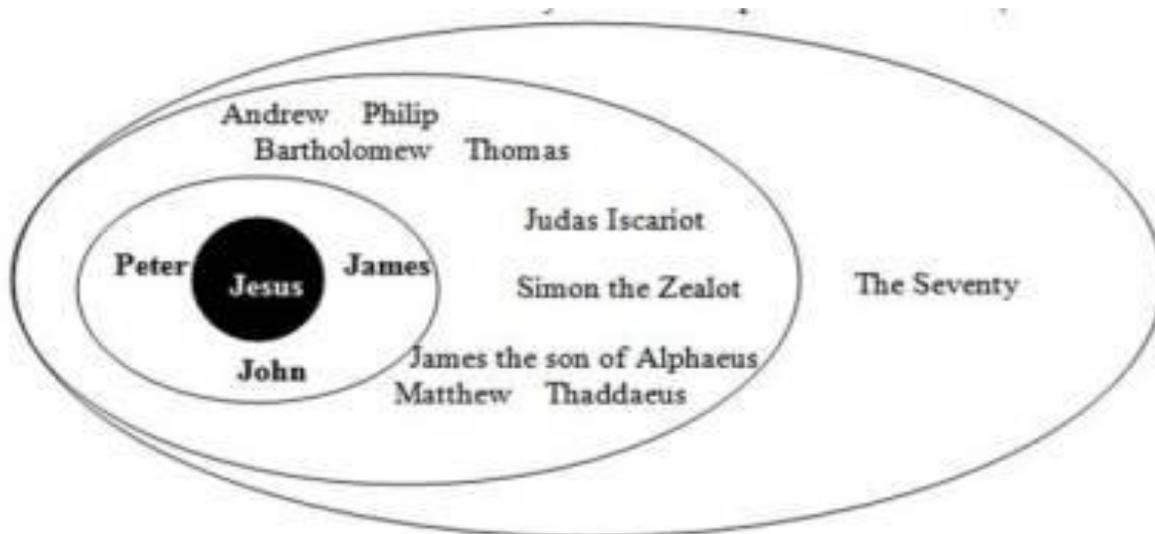
<sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because

of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. – Revelation 1:9

- Church tradition says that he is the only disciple who died of natural causes

### III. WHO PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN WERE COLLECTIVELY

- A. Members of Jesus' "kitchen cabinet." They were his inner, inner circle. No reason is given why he chose them to be so close.



- B. They had been with him the longest.  
C. Because they were on the inside, they had experiences and got to see things that other disciples did not get to experience and see.

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. – Matthew 17:1-3

<sup>21</sup> When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. <sup>22</sup> Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. <sup>23</sup> He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." <sup>24</sup> So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. <sup>25</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had

suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. <sup>27</sup> When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." <sup>29</sup> Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. <sup>30</sup> At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" <sup>31</sup> "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' " <sup>32</sup> But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." <sup>35</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" <sup>36</sup> Overhearing<sup>[c]</sup> what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." <sup>37</sup> He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." <sup>40</sup> But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). <sup>42</sup> Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. <sup>43</sup> He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat. – Mark 5:21-43

<sup>32</sup> They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup> He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup> "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch." <sup>35</sup> Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup> "*Abba,*<sup>[f]</sup> Father," he said, "everything is possible

for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” <sup>37</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Simon,” he said to Peter, “are you asleep? Couldn’t you keep watch for one hour? <sup>38</sup> Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” – Mark 14:32-38

#### **IV. LESSONS**

- A. Every organization/organism has a leadership structure. It would make sense for you to get to know the leadership structure of ANY organization that you are a part of. There must be order!
- B. Every leader needs people that he/she can unconditionally trust.
- C. Being in or chosen for leadership does not mean you are better, perfect, or infallible.
- D. Sometimes, leaders fail. We are not always kind to leaders when they fail, either ethically, morally, or administratively.
  - a. No leader fails by him/herself!
- E. Everybody can’t handle being on the inside.
- F. Real leaders groom/pour into/mentor/develop other leaders.
  - 1. Peter became the “head” of the church
  - 2. James became a prominent church leader, died for his faith.
  - 3. John was entrusted with Jesus’ mother, was a prominent church leader, died in exile.
- G. If you want to “go somewhere,” lift your leader. Wherever the leader goes, the leader will take you there.

#### **V. NEXT WEEK – CAIAPHAS, HEROD, AND ANNAS**

Join us on the St. Matthew Prayer Line daily at 6 am & 9:30 pm.

**CALL-IN PHONE NUMBER: (206) 806-9984**

**7:35 pm – Faithful Families, Thriving  
Communities Session #5**



**Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq.**  
And The Orange Municipal Council  
MOVING ORANGE FORWARD



Join Us For A Virtual Presentation

# Covid-19: Navigating the New Normal

**Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> | 6:00 PM**

**Join Zoom Meeting Info:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82030616450?pwd=R1JmZ2VhRzZ2TC9DbEl0RzV3eG9Tdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 3061 6450 | Passcode: 463944