

The Twelve Disciples of Jesus

<u>Disciple</u>	<u>Alternate Names</u>	<u>Background/Role</u>	<u>Key Traits or Notes</u>
Simon Peter	Cephas	Fisherman, brother of Andrew	Leader of apostles, bold, renamed 'Rock'
Andrew	-	Brother of Peter, former disciple of John the Baptist	First called, brought Peter to Jesus
James (son of Zebedee)	-	Fisherman, brother of John	Inner circle, 'Son of Thunder'
John (son of Zebedee)	-	Brother of James	Beloved disciple, author of Gospel/letters/Revelation (trad.)
Philip	-	From Bethsaida	Brought Nathanael to Jesus
Bartholomew	Nathanael	Friend of Philip	Honest, called 'true Israelite' by Jesus
Matthew	Levi	Tax collector	Writer of Gospel of Matthew (trad.)
Thomas	Didymus	Likely twin	Known for doubt, strong confession of faith
James (son of Alphaeus)	James the Less	Little-known background	One of the Twelve
Thaddaeus	Judas son of James, Lebbaeus	Little-known	Distinct from Judas Iscariot

Simon the Zealot	-	Possibly former revolutionary	Shows diverse backgrounds of disciples
Judas Iscariot	-	Treasurer of the group	Betrayed Jesus; replaced by Matthias (Acts 1:26)

Reflection Questions

1. What do the disciples' diverse backgrounds tell us about the kind of people Jesus calls?
2. Which disciple's story do you connect with most, and why?
3. How does Peter's renaming encourage us about our own identity in Christ?