

Sadness and Gladness

(St John 16:16–24)

Jesus said, “In a little while you will not see me any more, and then a little while later you will see me.” Some of his disciples asked among themselves, “What does this mean? He tells us that in a little while we will not see him, and then a little while later we will see him; and he also says, ‘It is because I am going to the Father.’ What does this ‘a little while’ mean? We don't know what he is talking about!”

Jesus knew that they wanted to question him, so he said to them, “I said, ‘In a little while you will not see me, and then a little while later you will see me.’ Is this what you are asking about among yourselves? I am telling you the truth: you will cry and weep, but the world will be glad; you will be sad, but your sadness will turn



into gladness. When a woman is about to give birth, she is sad because her hour of suffering has come; but when the baby is born, she forgets her suffering, because she is happy that a baby has been born into the world. That is how it is with you: now you are sad, but I will see you again, and your hearts will be filled with gladness, the kind of gladness that no one can take away from you.

When that day comes, you will not ask me for anything. I am telling you the truth: the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your happiness may be complete.”

The Twelve Apostles

For this activity you will need a Bible. Look up the following verse:

Matthew 10:2–4

(Hint: Matthew is the first book of the New Testament)

The word Apostle comes from a Greek word, meaning “messenger.” Jesus chose twelve men to follow Him and be His messengers. They continued sharing the teachings of Jesus and performing miracles in His name after he ascended (went up) to Heaven.

Read Matthew 10:2–4 and fill in the blanks with the names of the Twelve Apostles.

(Don't forget that two of the Apostles had the same name!)

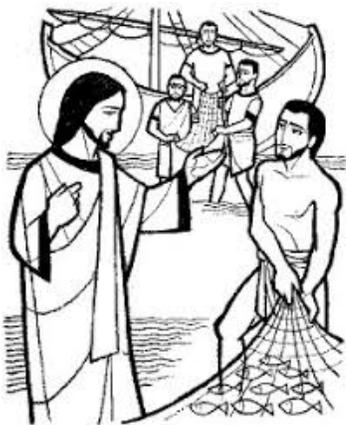


Jesus chose twelve men to be His Apostles. The number twelve is very important in the Bible. In the Old Testament there is a story about a man named Jacob who is called “Israel” by God. He had twelve sons and they are known as the Twelve Tribes of Israel.



Everyone from the land of Israel was a member of one of those tribes because they were decedents of one of the Sons of Jacob (Israel). Jesus’ family was part of the tribe of Judah.

The first Apostles called by Jesus were Simon-Peter and his brother Andrew. He called out to them while they were fishing in the Sea of Galilee and told them to follow Him. Simon was given the name Peter by Jesus because it means “rock.” Peter



recognised that Jesus was the Messiah and because of this Jesus said to him, “Peter: you are a rock, and on this rock foundation I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18). James and his brother John were also fishermen. They were fishing with their father when they first met Jesus. Before he met Jesus, Matthew was a tax collector. He collected money for the Roman government but he was dishonest and he used to take more money than he was supposed to in order to get rich. After he met Jesus,

Matthew changed his ways. The Bible does not tell us what the other Apostles did before they met Jesus.

After one of the Twelve, named _____ betrayed Jesus, the remaining eleven Apostles chose someone to replace him. Open your Bible and read **Acts 1:21-26** (*Hint: Acts comes right after the fourth Gospel*). What was the name of the new Apostle? His name was _____.

Christian Martyrs

A martyr is someone who dies for their faith. For hundreds of years after the time of the Apostles, many Christians were killed for following Jesus. Most people back then were not Christians and many of them did not like this new religion that challenged their way of life. They tried to force the Christians to reject Jesus, to say that He is not really God, and to stop following His teachings. But they believed in Jesus and they loved Him so much that they would not reject Him even if it meant being arrested and killed. They remembered that Jesus also suffered when He was on earth and that gave them courage. Even today some Christians live in parts of the world where it is dangerous to follow Jesus. They risk their freedom and sometimes their lives by going to church and telling others about the Gospel.

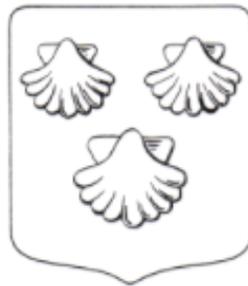
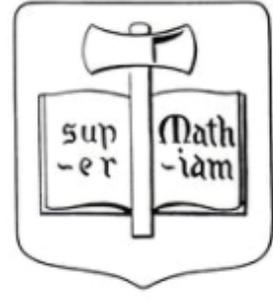
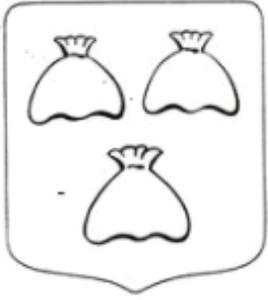
All but one of the Apostles were martyrs. The New Testament records the death of James the Apostle but there are many ancient legends about the deaths of the other Apostles. Only John lived to old age.



Jesus went up into a mountain and called unto Him those whom He would. There He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him.

Symbols of the Apostles

Match the symbol with the correct Apostle using the clues below. Write their name on the line under their symbol.



Andrew: According to tradition he was crucified on an X shaped cross

Bartholomew: According to tradition he was skinned alive with knives

James the Great: The first of the Apostles to go on a journey to tell people about Jesus. Millions of people travel to the cathedral dedicated to him in Compostela, Spain. They bring back scallop shells as a souvenir of their pilgrimage

James the Less: Was beaten with a club

John: The only Apostle who was not martyred. According to legend he was drank a cup of poison and survived. He wrote his Gospel in his old age

Judas: Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver

Jude Thaddeus: Sailed to many places to tell people the Gospel of Jesus

Matthew: Was a tax collector before he met Jesus and became a Gospel writer

Matthias: Chosen to replace Judas, he was later beheaded

Philip: Was concerned about finding bread to feed the crowd but Jesus was able to feed thousands with only a few loaves of bread (*hint: look for a symbol representing two loaves*) and some fish

Simon: Was killed by being sawn in half

Simon Peter: Jesus told him "I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven." He was crucified upside down

Thomas: The patron saint of builders. According to tradition he built a church with his own hands

Name: _____

The Twelve Apostles

J	F	M	J	E	B	J	O	H	N	R	M	R	A	B	C	T	G
O	G	Y	H	U	S	I	M	O	N	P	A	M	N	A	B	H	O
M	M	J	Y	A	D	Q	V	J	M	E	T	P	D	R	X	O	S
A	G	E	P	P	V	A	N	A	B	T	T	H	R	T	U	M	P
T	Q	S	S	O	M	C	S	M	T	E	H	I	E	H	V	A	E
T	V	U	H	S	A	J	U	E	A	R	E	L	W	O	L	S	L
H	D	S	A	T	E	J	A	S	G	R	W	I	E	L	F	F	T
I	T	Y	W	L	D	N	U	M	L	O	T	P	M	O	K	V	D
A	O	U	F	E	F	B	G	D	E	K	D	Y	P	M	O	U	O
S	C	X	M	S	Q	Q	D	E	E	S	Z	X	R	E	L	O	W
Z	L	A	F	T	E	D	S	J	R	Z	D	J	H	W	K	M	J
D	Q	W	M	T	L	H	E	B	Y	M	C	B	I	B	L	E	O

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ANDREW
APOSTLES
BARTHOLOMEW
BIBLE
GOD
GOSPEL
JAMES

JESUS
JOHN
JUDAS
JUDE
MARTYR
MATTHEW
MATTHIAS

MESSENGER
PETER
PHILIP
SIMON
THOMAS