



I. The **IDENTITY** of the disciples

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. (Matthew 10:2-4, NIV)

- Peter is always mentioned **FIRST**
- Three groups of **FOUR MEMBERS**
- Each group contains **DECREASING** amount of information
- Each group listed in decreasing **INTIMACY** to Jesus

II. The 12 disciples were far from **PERFECT**:

1. They had a lack of **SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING**

Peter said, "Explain the parable to us." "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. (Matthew 15:15-16, NIV)

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.

(Matthew 16:21-23, NIV)

2. They lacked **HUMILITY**

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

(Mark 9:33-37, NIV)

3. They lacked **FAITH**

He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. (Matthew 8:26, NIV)

When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. (Mark 16:9, NIV)

Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. (Mark 16:14, NIV)

4. They lacked **COMMITMENT**

So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him. (Luke 5:11, NIV)

Then everyone deserted him and fled. (Mark 14:50, NIV)

5. They lacked **POWER**

*When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him." "O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "**how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.**" Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment. Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" He replied, "**Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.**"*

(Matthew 17:14-21, NIV)

III. Chosen to be **TRAINED**. Chosen to be **SENT**.

He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. (Matthew 10:1, NIV)

IV. The **IMPACT** of the Disciples

*He called his twelve disciples to him and **gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.** (Matthew 10:1, NIV)*