

Jesus' Youth Group

Andrew – Older brother of Peter. Fisherman. Introduced other disciples to Jesus. Humble and focused on bringing others to Jesus.

Bartholomew – Missionary in Armenia. Of royal blood. Jesus called "An Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile" (John 1:47).

James the Lesser – Brother of Jude. Little to nothing is known of him.

John – He was a man of action; he was very ambitious; and a man with an explosive temper and an intolerant heart. Jesus called him "Son of Thunder" because of his intensity and explosive behavior. He and his brother, James, came from a more well-to-do family than the rest of the Apostles.

James the Elder – Fisherman. Member of the inner circle. Name never mentioned apart from his brother John. Was similarly hot tempered and outspoken.

Judas – Jewish Nationalist who latched on to Jesus in hopes that he would overthrow Roman rule and give him a prominent seat. Never caught Jesus' vision. Greedy and took money from the treasury. Betrayed Jesus.

Jude (or Judas Thaddeus) By character he was an intense and violent Nationalist with the dream of world power and domination by the Chosen People. He wanted the world to know Jesus as a ruling king not a suffering savior.

Matthew – Tax collector. Hated by his own people. Seen as a traitor and cheater.

Peter – Fisherman. Was married. Was the leader of the twelve. The spokesman for the group. Nearly always the first to speak, and put his foot in his mouth quite often. Quick-tempered and impulsive. Deeply devoted to Jesus.

Philip - Philip was a man with a warm heart and a pessimistic head. He was one who would very much like to do something for others, but who did not see how it could be done. Yet, this simple Galilean gave all he had. Simple faith in Jesus.

Simon – Was a Zealot. From this background, Simon was a fanatical Nationalist, a man devoted to the Law, a man with bitter hatred for anyone who dared to compromise with Rome.

Thomas – By nature, he was a pessimist. He was a man who could not believe until he had seen. His first reaction was not to do what he was told to do and not to believe what he was asked to believe. The good news to him was always too good to be true.

- * They all lacked faith in the midst of difficult situations.
- * They argued with one another.
- * They were often confused about what Jesus' mission was.
- * NONE OF THEM SEEMED TO EVER GET HIS STORIES!