

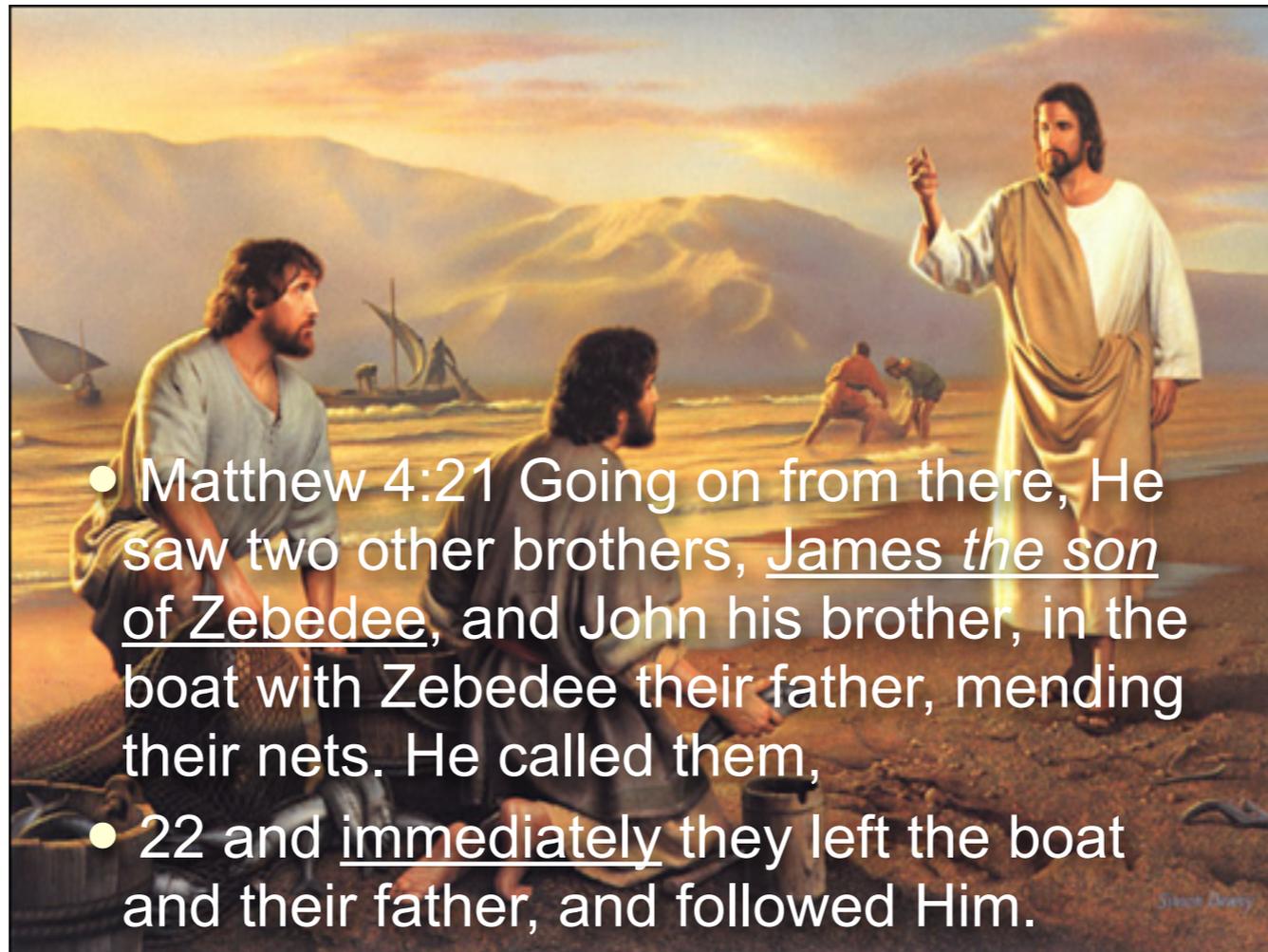


# Leadership Through Discipleship

Learning to Lead  
by Living to Follow

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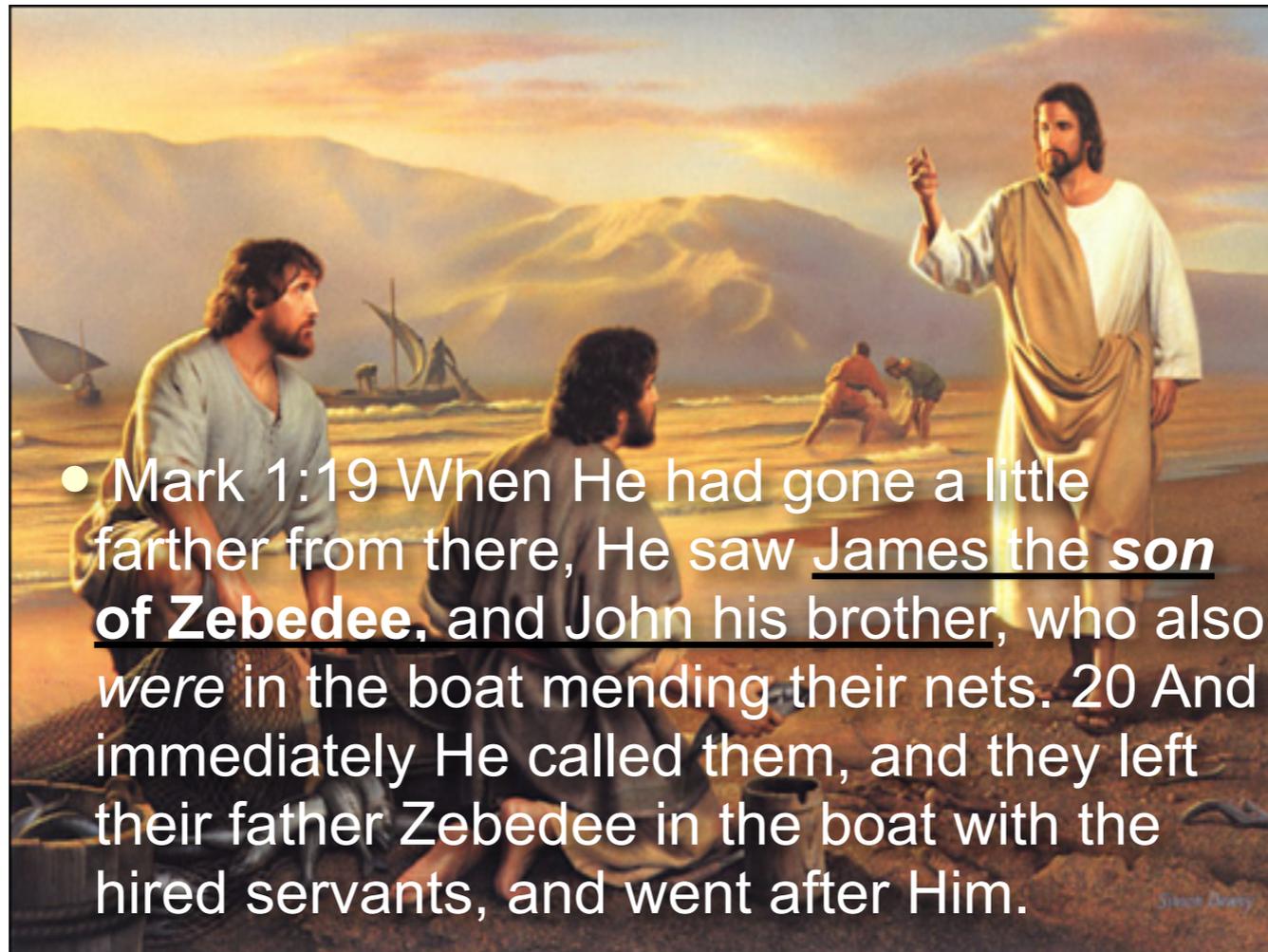


- Matthew 4:21 Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them,
- 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

#### CALL OF JAMES

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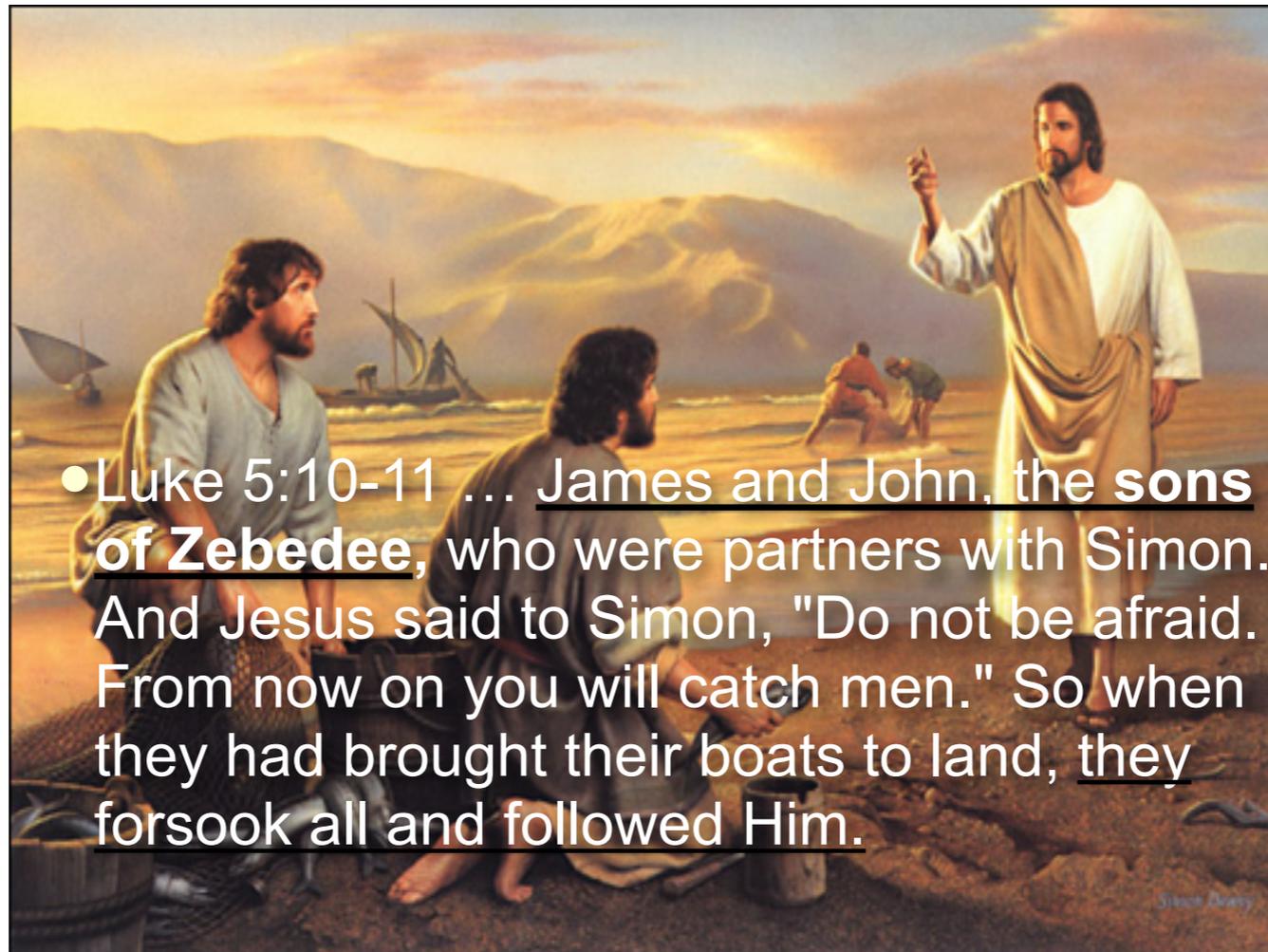


- Mark 1:19 When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. 20 And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.

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- Luke 5:10-11 ... James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

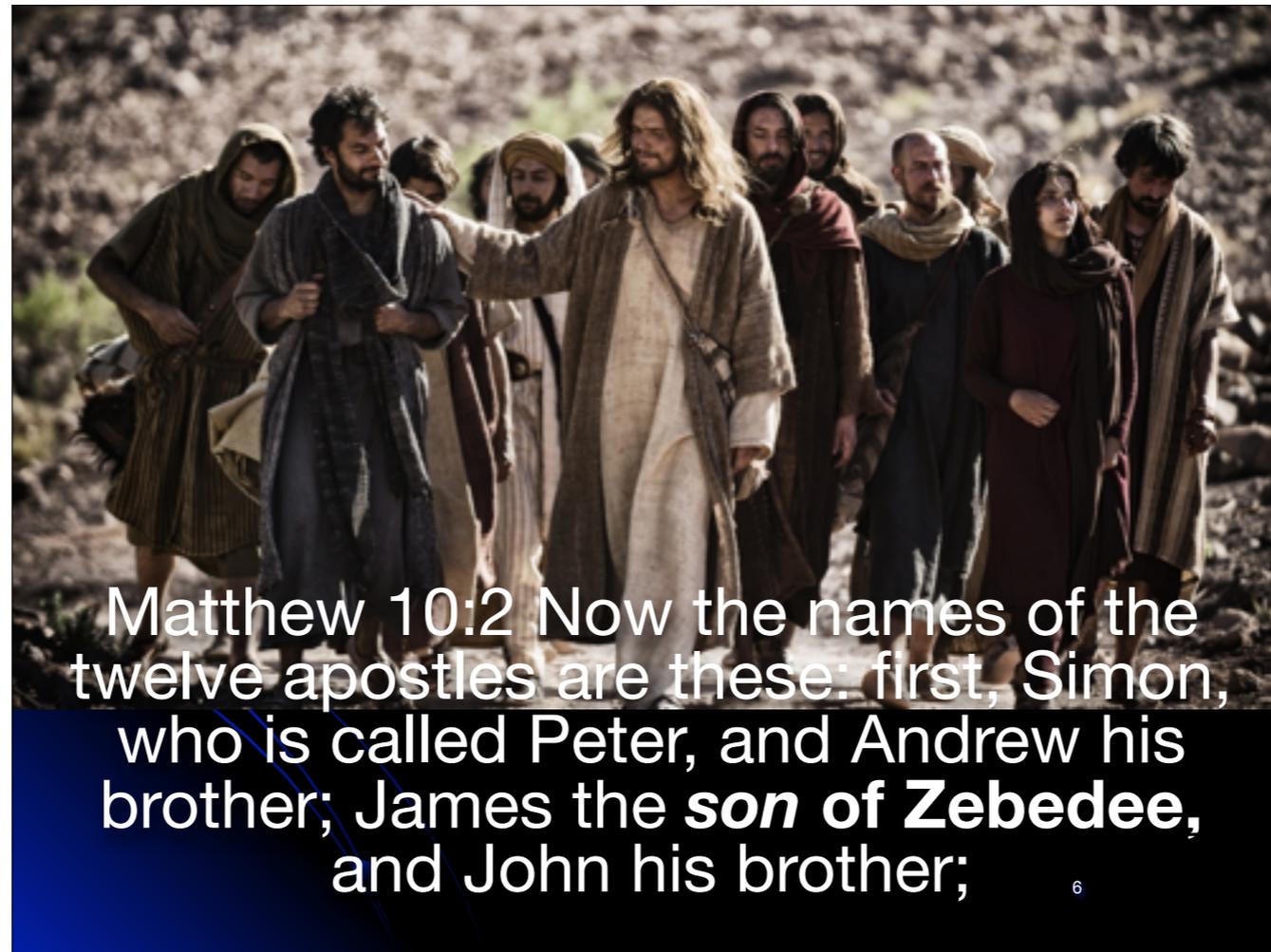
#### CALL OF JAMES

They were Partners with Simon, called by Jesus, forsook all to follow Him

NKJ Luke 5:9 For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken;

10 and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

11 So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.



Matthew 10:2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the **son of Zebedee**, and John his brother;

NKJ Matthew 10:2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; **James** the son of Zebedee, **and John his brother**;

From the reading it appears that James was the eldest of the brothers. The Scripture says “James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother.” John is identified as “the brother of James” twice in the book of Mark (3:17; 5:37).

It is not until Acts there is one mention of James being “the brother of John” (12:2). When there is a listing of disciples (especially the inner circle) James is always mentioned before John, as in “Peter, James, and John.” Together, these three in particular forsook all to follow Jesus. (See Luke 5:9–11.)



Deference in Discipleship  
JAMES  
The Power of Secondary Leadership

June 7, 2015  
Terry R. Baughman, Lead Pastor

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Deference in Discipleship  
James – The Power of Secondary Leadership  
A disciple learns to shine in the shadows. The silent partner of the inner circle.



## James The Power of Secondary Leadership

- Mentioned first
- The eldest - possible firstborn
- The inner circle of disciples

8

The priority of James is seen throughout the Gospels. James is always mentioned first in relationship to his brother John. Initially, John is only known as the brother of James. When the inner circle of disciples is specified it is always, "Peter, James, and John." If the order of arrangement is significant it at least suggests that James was the older of the brothers and recognized by the synoptic Gospel writers as one having precedence.

In the Jewish culture there was a priority given to the eldest of the siblings. It may be also seen in our culture today. Often the firstborn is given the responsibility of caring for the family in the event of the parents' death, the administration of the estate, and the management of the family business.

# The Firstborn



\* **Esau and Jacob, twins**

\* Jacob valued the birthright

-The privilege of the firstborn.

III. - Esau and Jacob, twins but Jacob valued the birthright



- \* **Manasseh and Ephraim**
- \* Jacob gave right hand to second born

### Manasseh and Ephraim

Genesis 48:14 (New International Version)

14 But Israel reached out his right hand and put it on Ephraim's head, though he was the younger, and crossing his arms, he put his left hand on Manasseh's head, even though Manasseh was the firstborn.

# Called to the Inner Circle

1. House of Simon (Peter) and Andrew, with James and John (Mark 1:29)
2. House of Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue (Mark 5:37; Luke 8:51)
3. Mount of Transfiguration (Matt 17:1; Mark 9:2; Luke 9:28)



This so called inner circle was called upon to accompany Jesus:

1. House of Simon (Peter) and Andrew, with **James** and John (Mark 1:29)

NIV 29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with **James** and John to the home of Simon and Andrew.

30 Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her.

31 So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

2. House of Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue (Mark 5:37; Luke 8:51)

NKJ Mark 5:35 While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"

36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe."

37 And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James.

NKJ Luke 8:49 While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher."

50 But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."

51 When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl.

52 Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping."

3. Mount of Transfiguration (Matt 17:1; Mark 9:2; Luke 9:28)

NKJ Matthew 17:1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

# Called to the Inner Circle

4. On one occasion Andrew joined them in a private discussion concerning the events surrounding the destruction of the Temple (Mark 13:3-4).
5. The Garden of Gethsemane (Matt 26:37; Mark 14:33).
6. The Book of Acts places these three first in the list of the disciples (Acts 1:13).



4. On one occasion Andrew joined them in a private discussion concerning the events surrounding the destruction of the Temple (Mark 13:3-4).  
NKJ Mark 13:1 Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!"  
2 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down."  
3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately,  
4 "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?"

5. The Garden of Gethsemane (Matt 26:37; Mark 14:33)  
NKJ Matthew 26:36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there."  
37 And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.

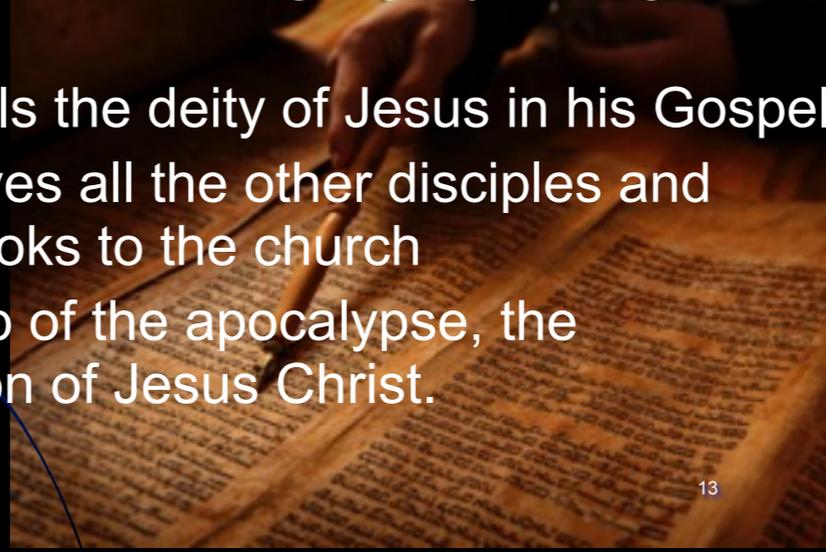
NKJ Mark 14:33 And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed.

6. The Book of Acts places these three, first in the list of the disciples who were waiting in the upper room prior to the outpouring of the Spirit (Acts 1:13).  
NKJ Acts 1:13 And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James.

James was faithful after the ascension of Jesus and was unified with the other disciples in the early church of Acts.

# James, least known of the inner circle

- Peter becomes the leader, the spokesman for the entire group, the preacher at Pentecost.
- John leaves an enduring legacy through his writing.
  - He reveals the deity of Jesus in his Gospel.
  - He survives all the other disciples and writes books to the church
  - Roadmap of the apocalypse, the Revelation of Jesus Christ.



James is the least known of the three. Peter becomes the leader, the spokesman for the entire group, the preacher at Pentecost. John leaves an enduring legacy through his writing. He reveals the deity of Jesus in his Gospel record. He survives all the other disciples and writes books to the church and leaves us the roadmap of the apocalypse, the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

There is nothing unique to James, but he teaches us something about leadership through his discipleship. He was in the big three but was content to let others shine.

The call of James was the same as his brother John, as well as Simon and Andrew's. He had the same power and authority. He may not always have been so passive!

(Above) Luke 5:9-11 ... they forsook all and followed Him.



# James

## The Power of Secondary Leadership

- The call of James was the same as his brother John
- He had the same power and authority.
- He may not have always been so compliant.
- Jesus taught them the kingdom principles concerning leadership and position.

# The Sons of Thunder

- James the *son* of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"  
— Mark 3:17

NKJ Mark 3:17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder";

Boanerges [bo-an-er-gees] = "sons of thunder" 1) a nickname given to James and John, the sons of Zebedee, by the Lord. The name seems to denote fiery and destructive zeal that may be likened to a thunder storm.

NKJ Luke 9:54 And when His disciples **James** and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"

Perhaps as a youth James would have defended his rights that came with being the eldest. Both James and John were called "sons of thunder" by Jesus. They seemed in agreement when they made a request of the Lord that they be given special seating in the new kingdom on each side of the throne of Jesus. (See Mark 10:35–45.) The other disciples hearing the request were indignant. Jesus used the occasion to teach them a lesson about leadership and striving for position. Among the rulers in the world there is jockeying for advancement with the intention of flaunting their authority, but Jesus taught that his disciples should not be that way.

## Mark 10:35-45

- 35 Then **James** and **John**, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask."
- 36 And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"
- 37 They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory."

16

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## Mark 10:35-45

- 38 But Jesus said to them, "**You do not know what you ask.** Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"
- 39 They said to Him, "**We are able.**" So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized;

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## Mark 10:35-45

- 40 "but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared."
- 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.
- 42 But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them."

18

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## Mark 10:35-45

- 43 "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.
- 44 "And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.
- 45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

19

43 "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

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45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."



Jesus taught the  
greatest  
leadership  
principle

... with a basin and a towel  
He taught them to serve

20

A principle of Jesus was introduced that was contrary to the popular thinking of the day and the worldview of our day. In the kingdom of God the greatest are those who serve. James begins to learn that leadership is not always who is “first” or “eldest” or “positions of authority” but to serve from a secondary place, to prefer others, to prefer his brother.

Jesus taught that disciple leaders would be greatest when they learn to serve. “Whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.” Apparently, James learns the lesson in leadership. Never again is there a request for position or any evidence of selfish promotion. If anything James becomes less known as Peter and John assume more visible leadership roles in the emerging church.

## Loves to have the Preeminence

- **3 John 1:5-8** Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, who have borne witness of your love before the church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well, because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. 8 We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth.

21

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## Loves to have the Preeminence

- **3 John 1:9-10** I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.



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10 Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.

## Loves to have the Preeminence

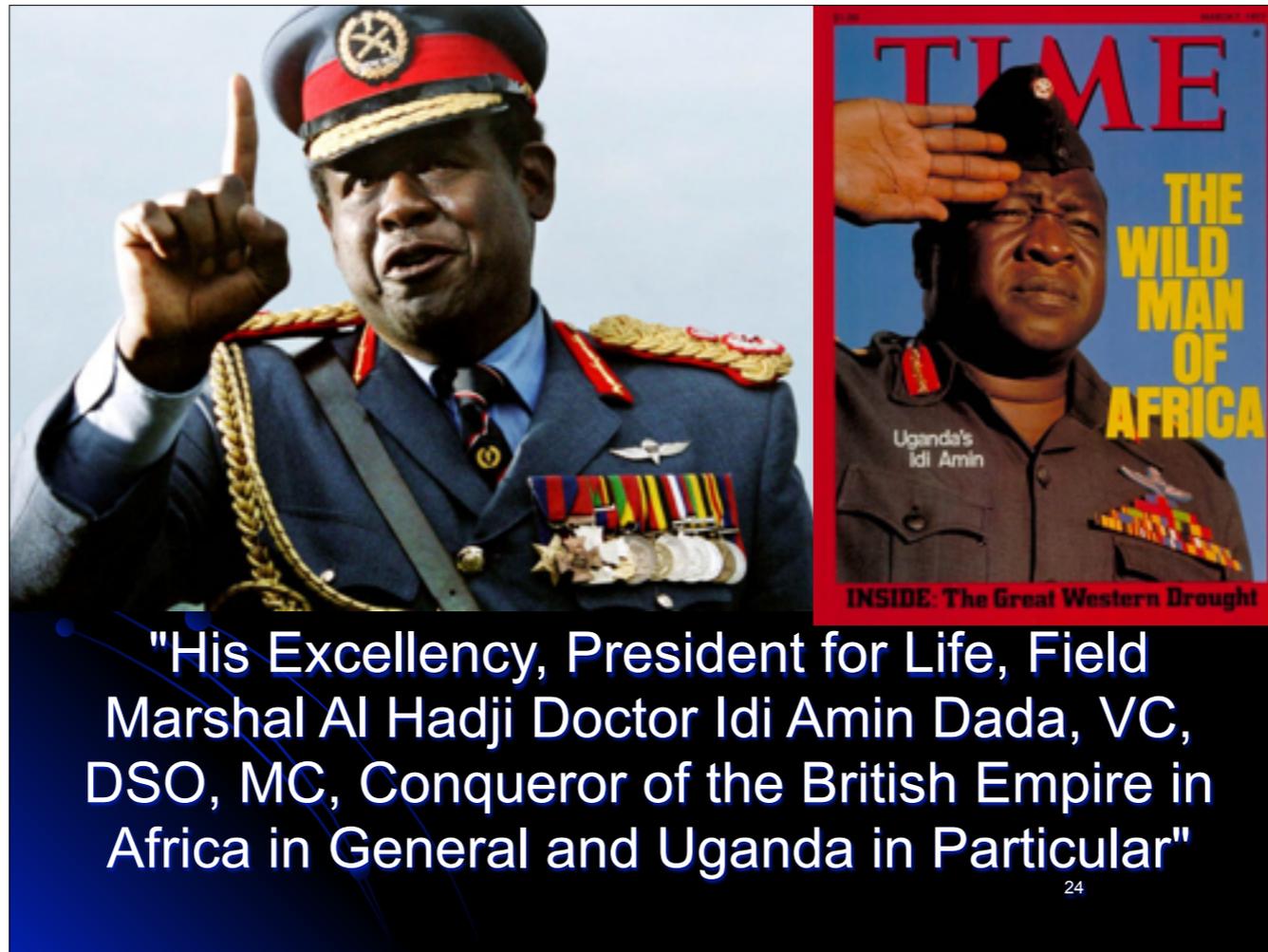
- **3 John 1:11** Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.



### Loves to have the Preeminence

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"His Excellency, President for Life, Field Marshal Al Hadji Doctor Idi Amin Dada, VC, DSO, MC, Conqueror of the British Empire in Africa in General and Uganda in Particular"

24

Idi Amin Dada (c.1925 – 16 August 2003) was the military dictator and President of Uganda from 1971 to 1979. The last two years Amin titled himself as "His Excellency, President for Life, Field Marshal Al Hadji Doctor Idi Amin Dada, VC, DSO, MC, Conqueror of the British Empire in Africa in General and Uganda in Particular"



11 "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

#### Seeking Places of honor

NKJ Luke 14:8 "When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in the best place, lest one more honorable than you be invited by him; 9 "and he who invited you and him come and say to you, 'Give place to this man,' and then you begin with shame to take the lowest place.

10 "But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, 'Friend, go up higher.' Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at the table with you.

11 "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."



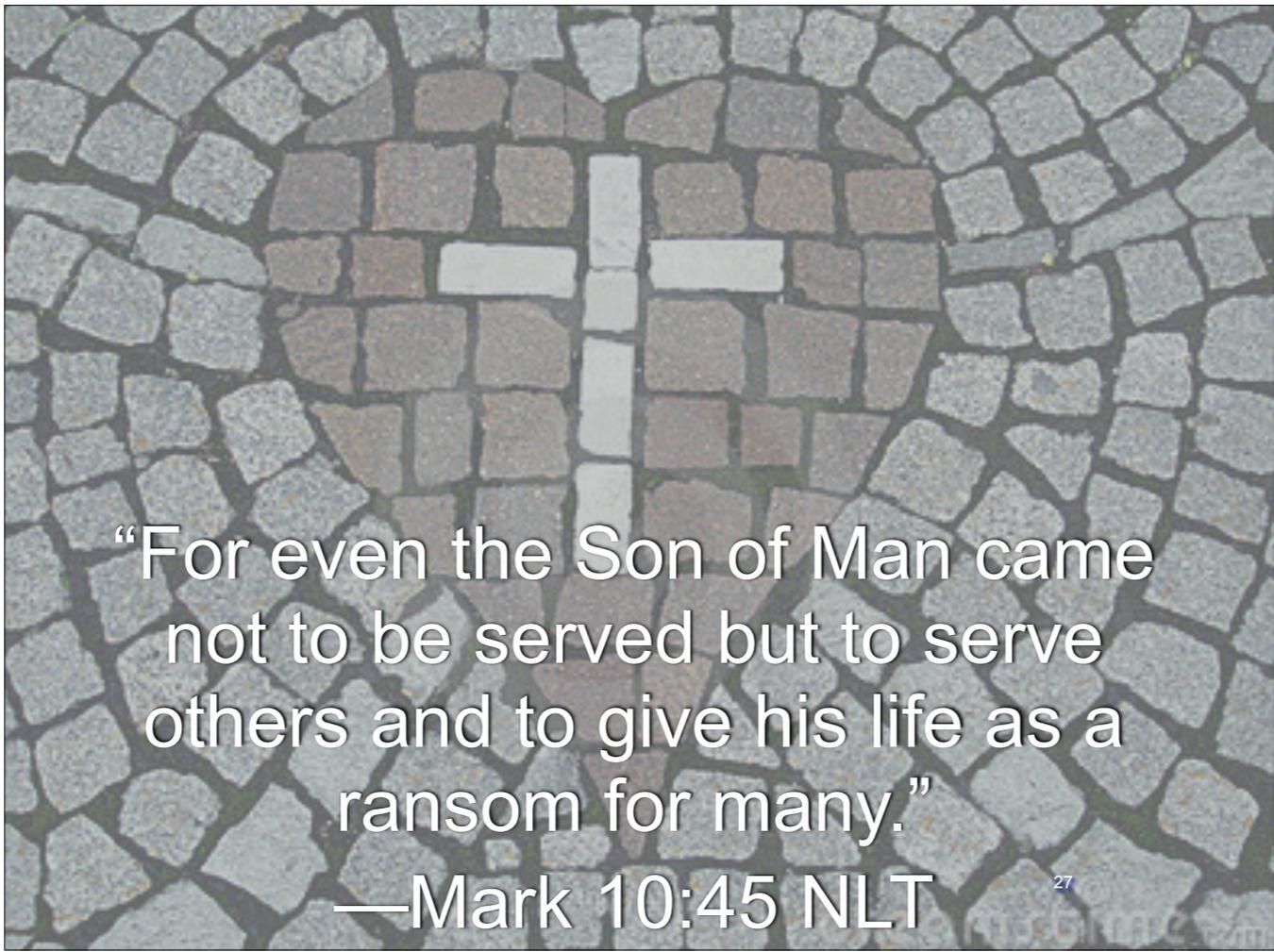
## James, faithful to the End

“Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword” (Acts 12:1-2).

- James paid the ultimate price for his faith, martyrdom at the hand of King Herod but his example in secondary leadership lives on.

26

John became one of the better known disciples. In Acts, for the first time James is referred to as “the brother of John.” It is in the context of his final epitaph, “Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword” (Acts 12:1-2). James paid the ultimate price for his faith, martyrdom at the hand of King Herod but his example in secondary leadership lives on. James followed the example of the master, “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45 NLT).

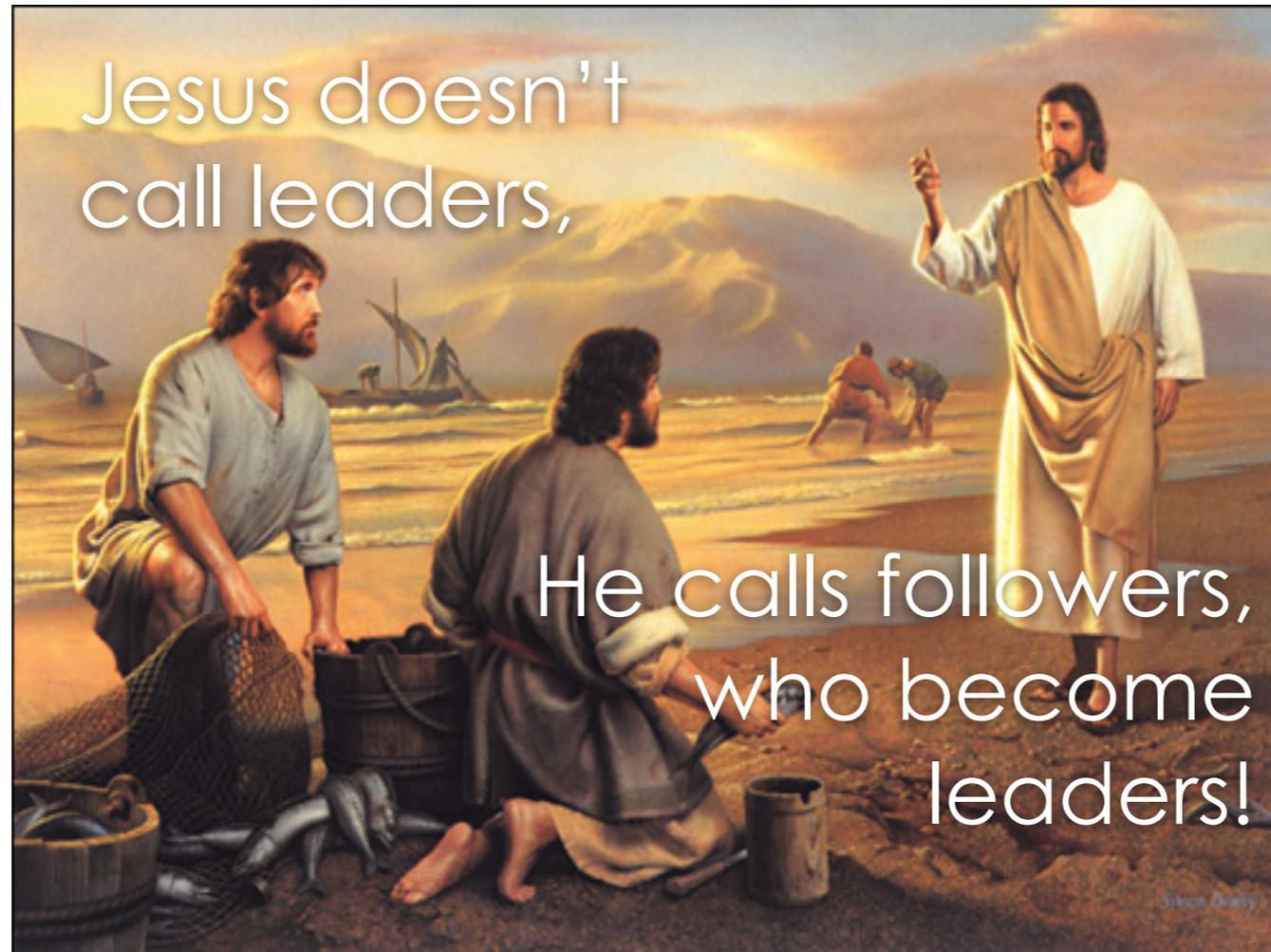
A close-up photograph of a cobblestone path. The stones are irregular in shape and color, ranging from light grey to dark brown. A central white cross-shaped marker is visible, formed by several white rectangular stones. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

“For even the Son of Man came  
not to be served but to serve  
others and to give his life as a  
ransom for many.”

—Mark 10:45 NLT

27

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45 NLT).



We often forget what we were before the Lord found us in our sin, saved us, and called us to be disciples. Or we excuse our lack of maturity and failure to change saying, "That's just the way I am."

Jesus does not call us just to be robotic followers. He does not mass produce disciples with mindless allegiance. Rather He calls us into a dynamic relationship. He treats us all as special individuals. Each of us is a unique design. His plan for your life is "one of a kind." He is not interested in blind followers but intelligent, passionate, and devoted disciples, developing and deciding day by day to grow in our relationship with Him.

There is a difference in being just a follower and truly being a disciple!

Jesus doesn't call leaders,  
He calls followers,  
who become  
leaders!



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