

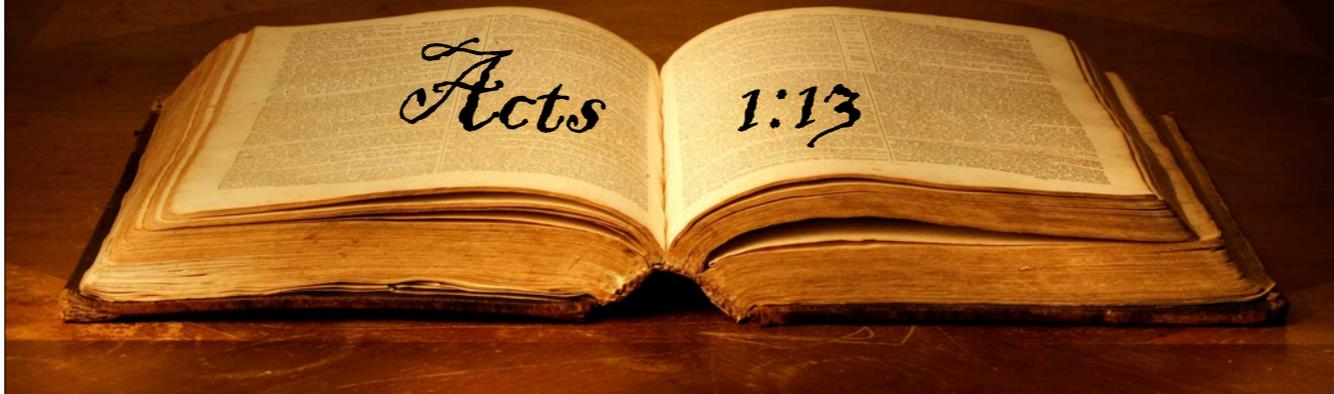
Leadership Through Discipleship

Learning to Lead
by Living to Follow

Terry R. Baughman
Lead Pastor



“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.”



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—Acts 1:13



SIMON, THE ZEALOT

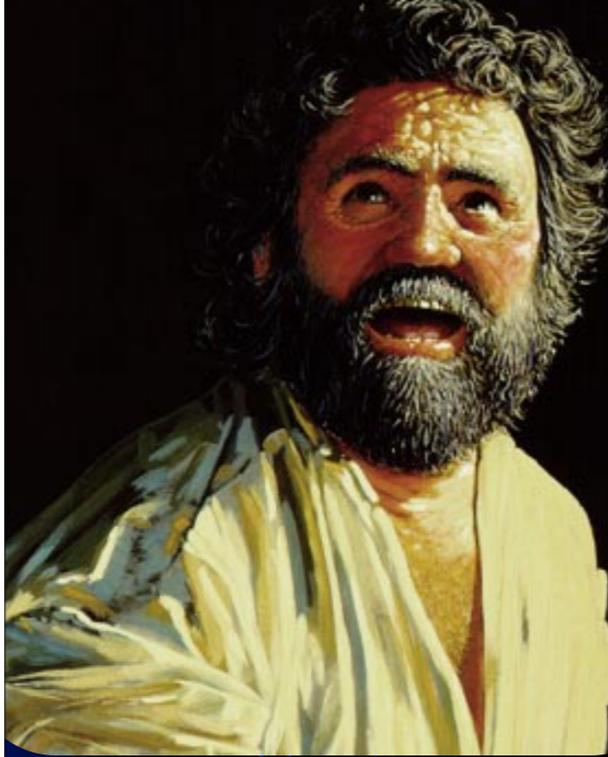
The Power of Passion

March 20, 2016

Terry R. Baughman, Lead Pastor

 **LifeChurch**
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SIMON, THE ZEALOT
The Power of Passion



*Passionate people
can become powerful
leaders*

SIMON, THE ZEALOT

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Passion



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Individuals with great passion have the potential of expressing their zeal and inspiring (or inciting) the activism of others for a cause.
—Discipleship leaders are those who have learned the discipline of controlled passion. Redirected passion and controlled zeal produce powerful leaders.

The Twelve in the Gospels & Acts

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:14-19	Luke 6:13-16	Acts 1:12-13	John 1:40-49
1. Simon, Peter	Simon, Peter	Simon, Peter	Simon, Peter	Andrew
2. Andrew	James	Andrew	James	Simon Peter, Cephas
3. James	John	James	John	(21:2 “sons of Zebedee”)
4. John	Andrew	John	Andrew	

[LAST LESSON]

Read John 1:35–51 for the full context and the background to this event. The account reveals what takes place in the transition of Andrew being a disciple of John the Baptist to him becoming a follower of Christ. After Andrew brings his brother Simon, Jesus calls him to discipleship as well and renames him Cephas (or Peter). The following day Jesus found Philip and invited him to follow.

The account given in the Gospel of John differs from the synoptic gospels and Acts in the listing of the twelve disciples. More detail is given about some of the disciples, like Andrew and Philip, while others of the twelve are not named in John’s Gospel.

The Twelve in the Gospels & Acts

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:14-19	Luke 6:13-16	Acts 1:12-13	John 1:40-49
5. Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
6. Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas	Nathanael Bartholomew?
7. Thomas	Matthew Levi (2:14)	Matthew Levi (5:27)	Bartholomew	11:6; et al. Thomas, the twin
8. Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew	

[LAST LESSON]

Take a look at the ... chart to see which disciples are mentioned and what names are given. Philip holds the same numerical position throughout the other references as the fifth disciple mentioned. In John he is the third mentioned while James and John are never mentioned by name and only referred to once as “the sons of Zebedee” (John 21:2). That appears to be consistent with John’s reluctance to name himself throughout the Gospel. Listing of The Twelve usually began in pairs; Philip is always fifth and paired with Bartholomew in the Synoptic gospels and with Thomas in Acts. (See Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:13–14; Acts 1:13)

Partly because of the usual pairing of the brothers, James and John, and sometimes Andrew and Peter, it may be assumed that Philip and Bartholomew are also linked together. While there is no relationship stated in the text, the pairing is consistent in most lists. As a result, common conjecture identifies Nathanael in the Gospel of John as being one and the same as Bartholomew in the other four lists of disciples. In the three synoptic gospels Philip and Bartholomew are listed consecutively. The same sequence is found in John with Philip and Nathanael. There is not sufficient evidence to state that Bartholomew and Nathanael is the same person, but neither is there reason to dismiss the possibility (Wilkins, ABD – Anchor Bible Dictionary).

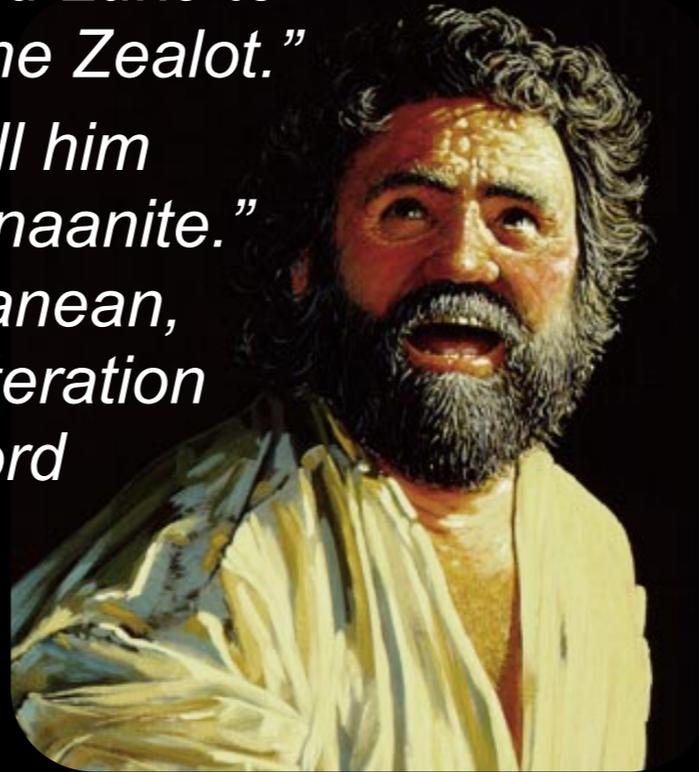
Even if Nathanael was not a relative he was surely a close friend to Philip. Just as Andrew immediately sought out his brother to share the good news of the Messiah, Philip at once went to Nathanael to share the news of his discovery, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote -- Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

The Twelve in the Gospels & Acts

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:14-19	Luke 6:13-16	Acts 1:12-13	John 1:40-49
9. James, son of Aphaeus	James, son of Aphaeus	James, son of Aphaeus	James, son of Aphaeus	21:2 Two other disciples
10. Lebbaeus, surname was Thaddaeus	Thaddaeus	Simon, called the Zealot	Simon, called the Zealot	”
11. Simon, the Canaanite	Simon, the Canaanite	Judas, son of James (Thaddaeus?)	Judas, son of James (Thaddaeus?)	14:22 Judas, (not Iscariot)
12. Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	1:23 Matthias	6:71; et al. Judas Iscariot

Aggressive and passionate men were among the chosen disciples
 Simon Peter was one
 Another was also called Simon
 Simon the Zealot (Luke & Acts)
 Simon the Canaanite (Matthew & Mark)

- *Something in his character or behavior caused Luke to tag him “Simon, the Zealot.”*
- *Other Gospels call him Simon as “the Canaanite.” Literally, it is Cananean, probably a transliteration of the Aramaic word for “zealot.”*



Aggressive and passionate men were among the chosen disciples. Simon Peter was one. Another was also called Simon. Perhaps it was to distinguish between them that Luke identified the latter as Simon the Zealot. There was surely something in his character or behavior that caused Luke to tag him with the moniker.

—The other synoptic gospel writers identify this Simon as “the Canaanite.” Literally, it is Cananean, probably a transliteration of the Aramaic word for “zealot.”

—John does not identify the disciples individually but refers to “the twelve” on several occasions.

The Zealots



According to Easton's Bible Dictionary, the Zealots were, "a sect of Jews which originated with Judas the Gaulonite (Acts 5:37). They refused to pay tribute to the Romans, on the ground that this was a violation of the principle that God was the only king of Israel. They rebelled against the Romans, but were soon scattered, and became a lawless band of mere brigands. [ADV] They were afterwards called Sicarii, from their use of the sica, i.e., the Roman dagger."

Some of the zealots became assassins, intent on destroying the leaders of their opposition.

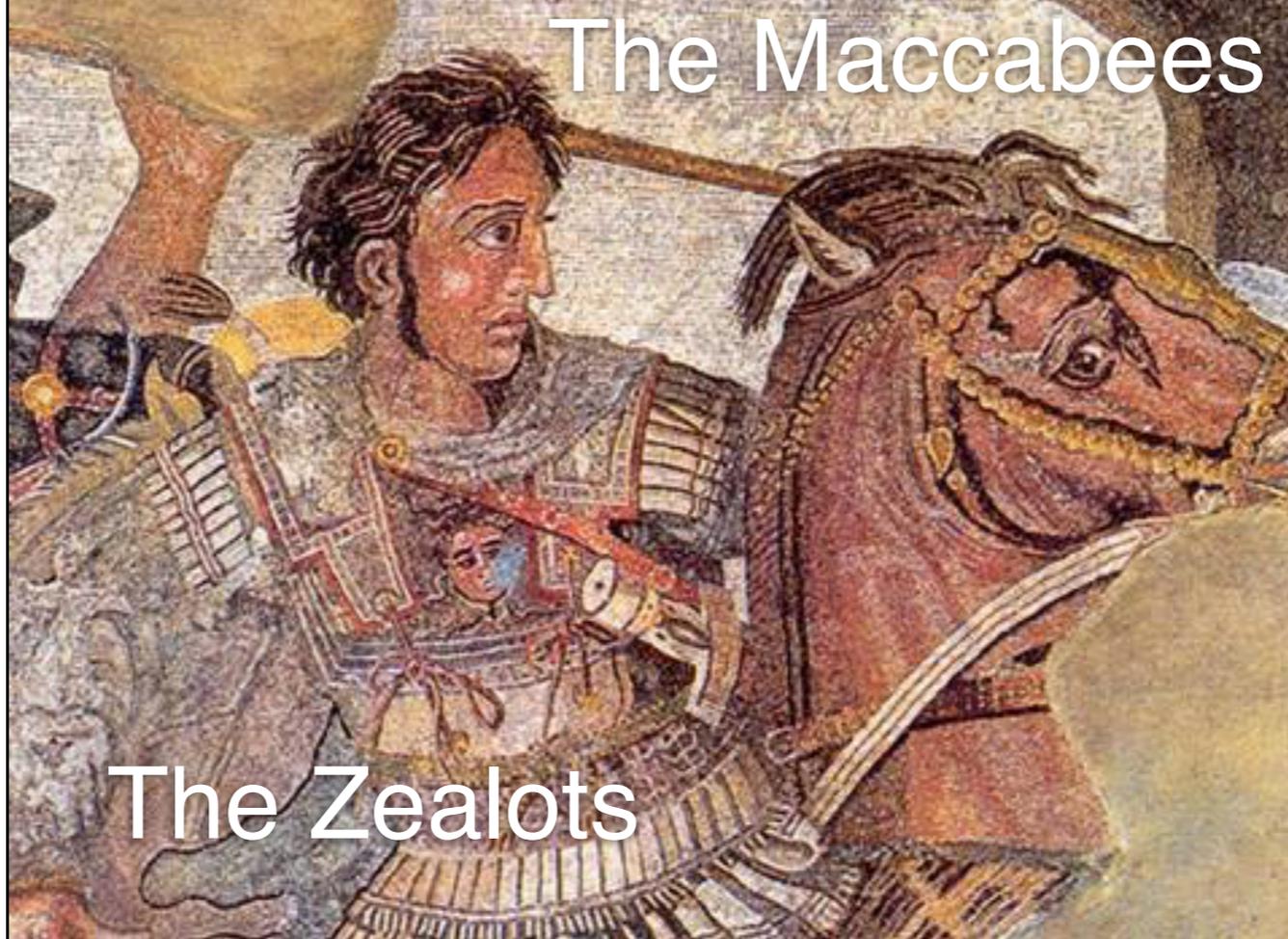
- Acts 21:37

- Acts 22:3

Paul was "brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today." (Vs. 3)

The Zealots were not identified as a political group until around AD 68. These were leaders in the defense of the temple in Jerusalem which was destroyed two years later. According to the Anchor Bible Dictionary,

"The evidence from Josephus suggests that it was not until about [A.D.] 68 during the Roman-Judean War that one of the revolutionary factions came to identify itself formally as the Zealots. Therefore, it is anachronistic to view people acting with zeal before [A.D.] 68 as members of a sect called the Zealots."



The first century in the Middle East was marked by **social unrest and civil revolt**. Throughout this time of history, from the Maccabees until the destruction of Jerusalem [166 B.C. to A.D. 70], there were extreme individuals who joined together to plot the overthrow of the Roman oppressors. Some were so passionate in their zeal for nationalism that they resorted to violent actions against the occupying forces.

Violence seemed to be common to the time. In a violent reaction against the apostles in Acts 5 the Sadducees detained them and threw them in jail. They were miraculously delivered by angels and returned to teach and preach in the public area of the Temple. The council became so angry they were ready to kill them. Gamaliel calmed their anger with two references to other rebellions that had been dispersed.

- Acts 5:33-40

-Theudas -leader of about four hundred.

-Judas of Galilee led many revolutionaries.

-Concerning the works of the Apostles, Gamaliel concluded, "but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it -- lest you even be found to fight against God." (Vs. 39)

Acts 5:33-40

- When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.
- Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while.

The apostles were detained and jailed by the Sadducees in Acts 5

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34 Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while.

Acts 5:33-40

- And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men.
- "For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing.

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Acts 5:33-40

- "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed.
- "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing;

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Acts 5:33-40

- "but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it — lest you even be found to fight against God."
- And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

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The Zealots



- Some of the zealots became assassins, intent on destroying the leaders of their opposition (Acts 21:38).
- They rebelled against the Romans, but many were scattered, and became lawless bands (or outlaws).
- The Zealots were not identified as a political group until around AD 68 defending Jerusalem.

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Acts 21:37-39

- Then as Paul was about to be led into the barracks, he said to the commander, "May I speak to you?" He replied, "Can you speak Greek?" "Are you not the Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a rebellion and led the four thousand assassins out into the wilderness?" But Paul said, "I am a Jew from Tarsus, in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city; and I implore you, permit me to speak to the people."

18

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Insight One

- Passionate believers may be people of great zeal. God can redirect the activists and use their passion for His greater purpose!
 - The use of the word “Zealot” to identify this Simon probably indicates his zeal for God’s honor and not extreme nationalism.

“The power of passion”

—Discipleship leaders may be people of great zeal. God can redirect the activists and use their passion for His greater purpose!

The use of the word “Zealot” to identify this Simon probably indicates his zeal for God’s honor and not extreme nationalism. Simon would likely have been passionate before the call to be a disciple, but now the cause for his passion was redirected. As he heard the teaching of Jesus he learned the principles of loving the enemy, submitting to God’s authority, and showing mercy to others. He also learned that he could channel this fervent drive to share the Gospel with others and appropriately face the opposition to the “good news” of peace. No longer would he dream of overthrowing Roman dominion, but now he could set out to defeat the kingdom of darkness as he proclaimed the message of light.

Insight Two

- Unbridled passion or uncontrolled enthusiasm can be a destructive force. Through discipleship training wisdom is developed and zeal can be channeled to a positive cause and a productive outlet.

“The power of passion”

Unbridled passion or uncontrolled enthusiasm can be a destructive force. Through discipleship training wisdom is developed and zeal can be channeled to a positive cause and a productive outlet.

Passion is a valuable quality and zeal is an admirable attribute, but misdirected passion can destroy a legitimate cause. Untempered zeal can endanger a righteous movement. Extreme anti-abortion activists, who slay doctors and deface clinics in their zest for justice, do more damage to the cause than they do to advance the pro-life agenda.



Westboro Baptist Church
Topeka, KS
Fred Phelps (died 2014)

Romans 10:1-3

- “Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”

Paul spoke of those in Israel who had “zeal for God, but not according to knowledge” (Romans 10:2). Teaching and understanding brings wisdom to our fervor and power to our passion.

– Romans 10:1–3

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James 3:5-6

- 5 Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!
- 6 And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

A controlled burn is advantageous in forest areas to reduce the threat of the ravages of a wildfire, but the same fire burning without control is a destructive force! James spoke of the tongue. "See how great a forest a little fire kindles!"

- James 3:5-6

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Insight Three

- Disciplined leaders learn the virtue of controlled passion and focused zeal.
- Through discipleship we are not dismissing zeal and dissolving passion, but redirecting these God given talents to a positive expression.

“The power of passion”

Discipleship (disciplined) leaders learn the virtue of controlled passion and focused zeal.

If we can learn the lessons of the master teacher we may be able to focus our passion to His righteous cause and advance the Kingdom of God more effectively. Through discipleship we are not dismissing zeal and dissolving passion, but re-directing these God given talents to a positive expression.

Paul wrote of Epaphras who had a “great zeal” for the Colossians. He said he is “always laboring fervently for you in prayers.” May we be likewise passionate for the advancement of God’s kingdom in our day!

– Colossians 4:12–13

There’s nothing wrong with great zeal as long as it is controlled and directed toward God and His purpose!

Colossians 4:12-13

- Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.
- For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis.

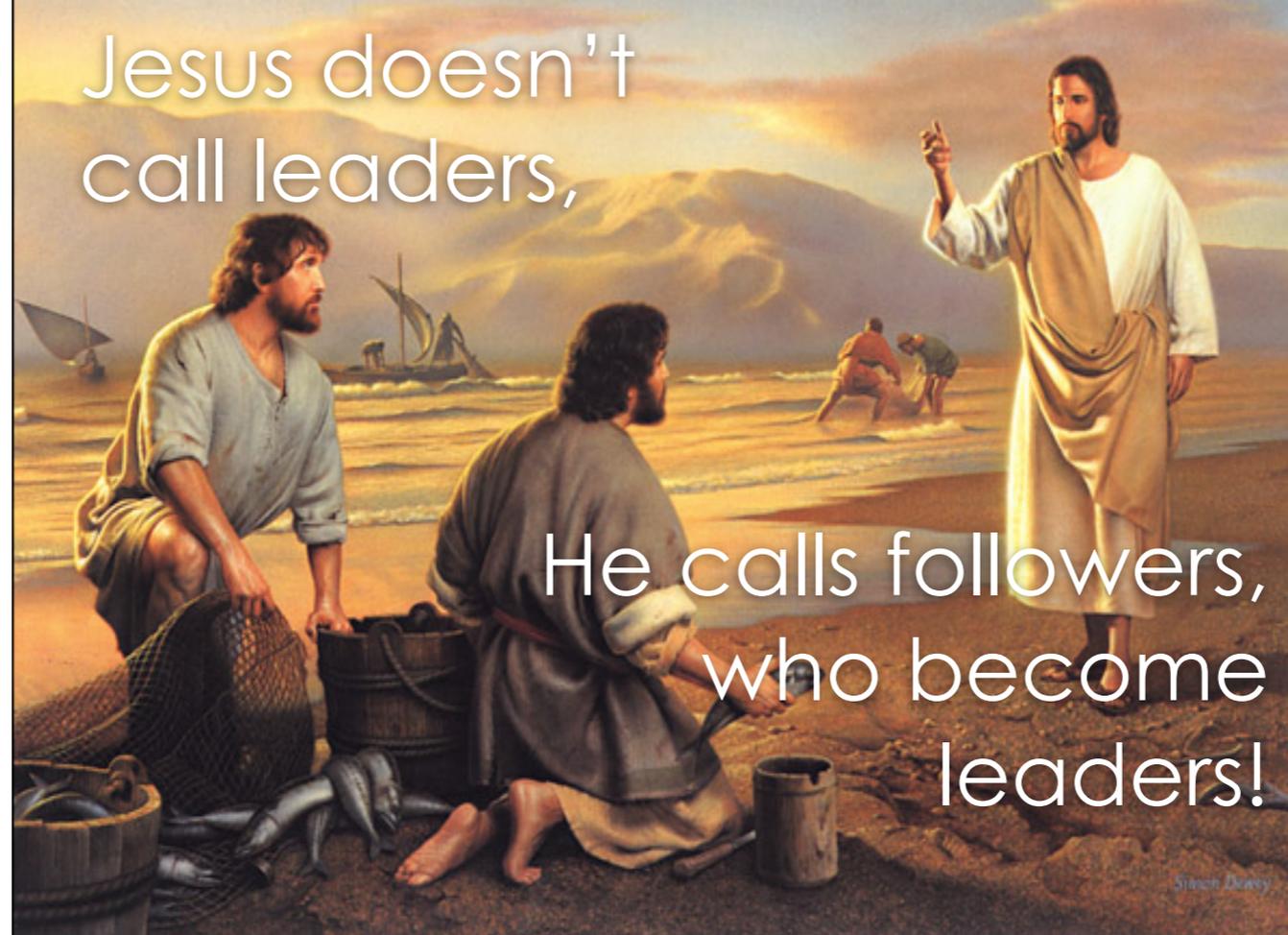
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Be Passionate for God!

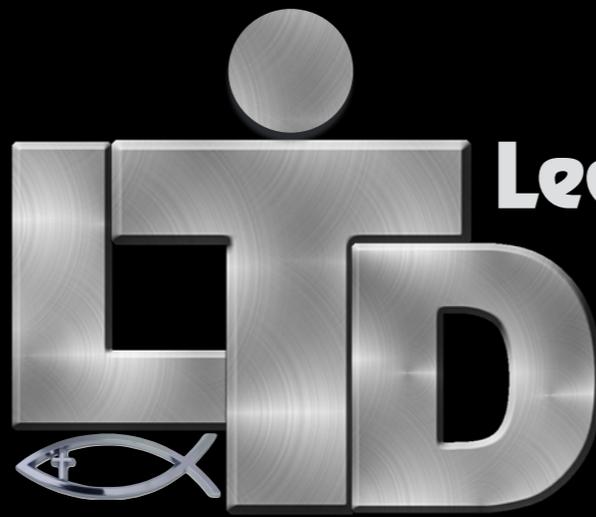
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