

Less Me

Week 2: Jesus' Humble Crew

Weekly Summary: Jesus didn't select scholars to be his closest friends. He didn't seek out Israel's smartest or most talented. Instead our Savior chose fishermen and commoners. Why would Jesus choose such humble friends?

◆ Matthew 4:18-22 - As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

◆ Matthew 9:9 - As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

Matthew 9:10-13 - While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 12 On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

- ◆ What is true about Jesus' crew:
 - ❖ They are **FAMILIAR**
 - ❖ They are **FLAWED**
 - ❖ They **FOLLOWED**
 - ❖ **YOU** are invited to his crew too!

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (God's Word Translation) - Brothers and sisters, consider what you were when God called you to be Christians. Not many of you were wise from a human point of view. You were not in powerful positions or in the upper social classes. ²⁷ But God chose what the world considers nonsense to put wise people to shame. God chose what the world considers weak to put what is strong to shame. ²⁸ God chose what the world considers ordinary and what it despises—what it considers to be nothing—in order to destroy what it considers to be something. ²⁹ As a result, no one can brag in God's presence. ³⁰ You are partners with Christ Jesus because of God. Jesus has become our wisdom sent from God, our approval, our holiness, and our ransom from sin. ³¹ As Scripture says, "Whoever brags must brag about what the Lord has done."

Points to Ponder

1. Recall as many believers in the Bible as you can. For each, see if you can name a sin (or sins) that they committed. Why do you think the Bible almost always spells out their "fatal flaws"?
2. John 15:16 "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you...". What comfort does it give you to know that Jesus chose you (and not the other way around)?
3. In inviting the first disciples, Jesus said "Follow me," not "Believe in me." Why?

Homework For Next Week: Matthew 4:23-25