

100 days with Jesus

Group Study No: 12

Matthew 20:20-28

Introduction

Jesus chose twelve disciples. These were to be his main men. He prayed over them and gave them extra teaching and training. These were the ones he invested himself in, and on whom he was to depend. At the end of his time on earth, Jesus entrusted his whole mission to them.

They were twelve special men, the great ones, the faithful ones; one for each of the Old Testament tribes and so forming the new Israel. So special in fact, that we see them today in our stained glass windows, and we remember their names.

One of them betrayed Jesus, another denied him three times, whilst a third lost all faith in him. Here, we see two of his inner-core of three completely eaten up by ego and power lust, and not only that but hiding behind their mother's skirt! These two, James and John, are supposed to be the Sons of Thunder!

Discussion

1. What is the best thing you have ever been chosen for? Something at school perhaps, or a job, a hobby, in fact any area of your life?
2. What is the significance of it being their mother who made this request?
3. Most of us like to feel important. Why is this?
4. When do you find this sort of temptation greatest in your own life?
5. V23 What do you think that the phrase, 'drink the cup I am going to drink' means?
6. V24 What does the response of the other ten disciples tell us about them?

7. In what areas of your life do you sense that God wants you to develop more of a servant heart?

8. If Jesus can choose (and use) such a bunch of dysfunctional disciples as the twelve here, what encouragement does this give you?

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
I will never be the perfect disciple.
I may never be a very good disciple,
But help me, as I follow you,
To be the best disciple I can be.
Amen.