What do a blatant liar, an accusing enemy, a rumored thief, a fanatical revolutionary, a bewildered doubter, an explosive agitator, a restless skeptic and a proven traitor have in common? These are the men to whom Jesus entrusted His message and the individuals He chose to change the world.

In this discussion class, we will explore the unique background, personality and character of each of the twelve men Jesus chose to serve as His initial messengers into a lost world and whose names are written on the twelve foundations of the holy city of God (Rev 21:14). We will look at how each encounter with Jesus shaped their lives and their world-changing ministry.

From this study we hope to learn how we too can be better messengers to our world today. As we focus each week on one (or two) of these men, we will ask:

- Who was this man, when Jesus called him?
- How did he encounter Jesus?
- How did he change when he met the Master?
- What can we learn and apply in our lives?

Twelve Disciples				
Mark 3:16-19	Matthew 10:2-4	Luke 6:14-16	Acts 1:13	
Peter	Peter	Peter	Peter	
James Andrew		Andrew	James	
John	James	James	John	
Andrew John		John	Andrew	
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip	
Bartholomew* Bartholomew*		Bartholomew*	Thomas	
Matthew Thomas		Matthew	Bartholomew*	
Thomas	Matthew	Thomas	Matthew	
James, James, son of Alphaeus son of Alphaeus		James, son of Alphaeus	James, son of Alphaeus	
Thaddeus Lebbaeus, surnamed Thaddeus		Simon Zelotes	Simon Zelotes	

Simon,	Simon,	Judas,	Judas,	
the Cananaean	the Cananaean	the son of James	the son of James	
Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot		

^{*} Nathanael – John 1:43-51; 21:2

References:

- The Master's Men: character sketches of the Disciples by William Barkley
 Twelve Men that Changed the World by Stanford Murrell

Week	Disciple/s	Scriptures	Other Names/Notes
3/5	The Twelve	See chart above	See chart above
3/12	Simon Peter	Matt 4:18-20; Mark 8:29-33 Luke 22:31-34; John 21:15-19 Acts 2:14-41; Acts 10:1-11:18	son of Jona; brother of Andrew; Cephas ('rock' or 'a stone') fisherman
3/19	Andrew	Matt 4:18-20; John 1:35-42;6:8,9; John 12:20-22	son of Jona; brother of Peter brought Peter to see Jesus fisherman
3/26	James	Mark 3:17; Mark 10:35-40 Luke 9:52-56; Acts 12:1-2	son of Zebedee; brother of John; called Boanerges - sons of thunder 'the elder' - 'the great' fisherman
4/2	John	Mark 1:19; 10:35-40; Luke 9:52-56; John 19:26, 27; 21:20-24	son of Zebedee; brother of James; called Boanerges – sons of thunder 'the beloved disciple'; 'the evangelist'; 'the revelator' fisherman
4/9	Judas Iscariot	Matthew 10:4; 26:14-30; Mark 3:19; Luke 6:16; 22:47-48; John 12:4-8	son of Simon 'the betrayer' treasurer for disciples
4/16	Thomas	Matt 10:3; John 14:5; 20:24-29 John 21:1-13	also called Didymus (twin); 'doubting Thomas'
4/23	Matthew	Matt 9:9-13; Mark 2:15-17 Luke 5:27-32	son of Alphaeus; also called Levi tax collector; wrote book of Matthew
4/30	Phillip	Matt 10:3; John 1:43-46;6:2-7 John 12:20-22; 14:8-11	brought Nathanael (Bartholomew) to see Jesus asked Jesus to show him the father
5/7	Bartholomew	Mark 3:18; John 1:45-51; 21:1-13	also called Nathanael friend of Philip
5/14	Thaddeus & James	Matt 10:3; Mark 3:18; John 14:22 Luke 6:15	Thaddeus - also called Lebbaeus and Judas, the son of James James - son of Alphaeus; the 'younger'; the 'less'

5/21	Simon & Matthias	Matt 10:4; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15 Acts 1:13; Acts 1:21-26	Simon – called the Cananaean; the Zelotes Matthias – chosen to replace Judas Iscariot
5/28	Paul	1 Cor 1:1; 9:1-5; 15:9; Gal 1:1: Rom 1:1: 11:13; Acts 9:1-19; 22;1-21	born Saul; roman citizen; zealot - persecuted the church well educated; tent maker converted on road to Damascus