

Jesus- Big decisions require prayer.

Sermon Notes

February 3, 2019

What is the longest time you have ever spent in prayer in a single sitting?

What was the impetus to that occurrence?

Jesus' first CEO decision for a world movement. **Luke 6:12-16**

- He chooses his team. (13a)
 - From among his disciples.
 - A disciple being a follower or learner.
 - There was a faithful group of followers that was at least 72 strong.
- He commissions them to apostleship. (13b)
 - An apostle is one who is "sent" or as more of an appointed "legal messenger." HBD

Jesus spends an entire night in prayer. (12)

- Perhaps it is to ask of the Father whom he should choose.
- Maybe it is because he knows whom he is to choose, he is having a "*not my will, but your will be done...*" moment with the Father.
 - 4-7 fishermen.
 - One politician.
 - One tax collector.
 - One thief and traitor.
- A likely part of that night in prayer was spending time praying for each of the 12.
 - Each of them was going to pay a heavy price for this assignment.
 - Each disciple was going to be led by God to various parts of the world to share the gospel and at great peril.
 - As seen later in Jesus addressing Peter about Satan's request to sift him as wheat, Jesus had already been praying for his success. **Luke 22:31-32**

The disciple's ministry and sacrifice.

Peter- Jerusalem, Turkey, Asia-minor, Rome. He was crucified upside down in Rome.

Andrew- Georgia, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Greece where he was crucified.

James son of Zebedee- Judea. Was the first apostle to die. Beheaded by Herod Tetrarch. **Acts 12:1-2**

John- Hierapolis, Ephesus. Survived being boiled and banned to the island of Patmos.

Philip- Eastern Turkey, Phrygia. Crucified face down there.

Bartholomew- India and Georgia. Crucified upside down.

Matthew- Ethiopia and Egypt. Speared to death.

Thomas- Iran, Afghanistan, India. Speared to death.

James son of Alphaeus- Jerusalem. Stoned to death.

Simon the Zealot- Mauritania, Northwest coast of Africa, and Britain where he was crucified.

Judas son of James (Thaddeus)- Syria, Turkey, Iraq, and Iran. Clubbed to death.

Judas Iscariot- Stole from and betrayed Jesus. Death by suicide on the same day as Jesus' death.

Matthias- Syria and Israel. Burned to death.

Praying long over big decisions.

- Pray to know God's heart.
- In prayer align your heart to God's heart.
- Pray to know direction.
- Pray for those affected.

Jesus' longest recorded prayer. John 17

- Jesus either prayed this in the upper room or while in route to the Garden on the night of his betrayal and arrest. BEC
- He began with alignment with the Father. (4)
- He prayed for his disciples lives and ministry. (11)
- He prayed for future believers. (20-21)
- He prayed for the mission of love to endure. (25-26)