



Disciple-Ship

Week 5

Disciple Focus: John (aka John the Beloved, John the Revelator)

Tonight's Text: John 13:23 KJV

²³Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

What's in a name?

John was a fisherman with both his father Zebedee and brother James. (Matthew 4:21; Mark 1:19). John and his brother James were partners with Simon Peter as fishermen. (Luke 5:10-11). John was chosen by Jesus Christ to be a disciple along with his brother James after Peter, and Andrew the brother of Peter. (Matthew 10:2). John and his brother James were surnamed **Boanerges** (pronounced boa-ner-gees) by Jesus in Mark 3:17. The general translation was the "sons of thunder"

*From the Dictionary- **BOANERGES** (noun)*

*A surname given by Jesus to James and John. **Mark 3:17.***

(Definition- a passionate and fiery preacher or orator.)

Q. What made John so special to Jesus?

A. the Bible does not give a detailed explanation of why John was referred to as “the disciple whom Jesus loved”, but due to the fact that the term is in the Holy Scriptures reinforces that there was a deep bond between Jesus and John. Most bible scholars agree that this bond was **friendship** based on John’s unshakable belief that Jesus was indeed the Son of God, and therefore was loyal to Him without question as a disciple and friend.

Q. What are the qualities of a true friend?

A. Group Discussion

Q. What did John accomplish as a disciple?

A. John, although a fisherman by trade and training, was the most prolific writer found in the New Testament and the Bible as a whole. His books were based on first hand witness, trusted research of other witnesses, and visions given to him by the Holy Spirit of the Last Days, Heaven, the final judgement, and eternity. Each of his five books reiterates the deity of Jesus Christ as the Son of God. His credited books include The Gospel of John, I John, II John, III John, and Revelation.

John was present at the Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1, Mark 9:2**)

John, along with James and Peter were the only disciples Jesus allowed to accompany him to raise Jairus’ daughter from death. (**Mark 5:37-43**)

John asked Jesus if he should call down fire on the Samaritans who rejected Jesus, and Jesus response marked the transition from Law to grace when He told him that “the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them” (**Luke 9:51-56**)

John and James asked to sit at the right and left side of Jesus in Heaven.

Jesus sent John and Peter to go and prepare the Passover. (**Luke 22:8-13**)

John, James, and Peter followed Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane (**Mark 14:33**)

John was the only disciple the Bible specifically places at the Cross, and Jesus gives John the instruction to care for His mother Mary. (**John 19:26**)

John saw the resurrected Jesus (**John 21:1-2**)

John was in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit fell (**Acts 1:13**)

John was witness the ascension of Jesus to Heaven (**Acts 1:9-13**)

John, with Peter, met a blind man outside of the Temple and healed him. (**Acts 3:1-11**)

John was imprisoned with Peter and they glorified God because they spoke with boldness even though they were seen by unbelievers as unlearned and ignorant men. (**Acts 4:1-21**)

John was imprisoned on the Isle of Patmos, a desolate place of isolation, from which he saw the vision and wrote the book of Revelation. (**Revelation 1:1,4,9**)

*Q. John has a prominent place among the disciples. He was the anti-Judas so to speak. He was the real deal. What do you believe Jesus saw in John that caused Him to command him to care for Mary, and more so to consider him such a good friend? (**Read Proverbs 17:17**)*

A. Group Discussion

Apostles Challenge- In what area of your spiritual life could you be more faithful? What is your

