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## 7 men of Destiny

→ Simon Peter/Thomas/Nathanael/James and John/2 others not mentioned by name

# All these men sacrificed something to follow Jesus

## REMEMBER THE HISTORY OF SOME OF THESE MEN

## Peter denied Jesus (3) times

## John 1:45-51 King James Version

- 45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.
- 46 And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

- 47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! 48 Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I
- 49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. ascending and

saw thee.

50 Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. 51 And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man



## He is promised a similar experience to Jacob, to be transformed

## THESE MEN WILL CHANGE THE WORLD!!

A small group, but unlimited potential Notice how God always seems to use a few to impact so many

#### **John 21:2 King James Version**

2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

# These 7 men called out by name having arrived at the sea of Tiberias (Galilee)

## They had followed Jesus' comments that he had previously given them

- **Matthew 28:9-10 King James Version** 9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.
- 10 Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

# Post-resurrection, after witnessing the honor of the crucifixion the apostles heed Jesus' words

### John 21:3A King James Version

3A Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee.

## Peter goes fishing

# DID PETER'S GUILTY CONSCIENCE MAKE HIM THINK HE WASN'T WORTHY TO WITNESS JESUS AFTER THE RESURRECTION?

## DOES YOUR GUILTY CONSCIENCE MAKE YOU THINK YOU'RE NOT WORTHY??

John 21:3B King James Version
3B "We also go with thee" They went
forth, and entered into a ship
immediately; and that night they
caught nothing.

### The impact of our lives on others

Somebody is following you

→ Your attitude will affect others

Our influence brings great responsibility

## PETER'S DENIAL OF CHRIST WASN'T THE END OF HIS STORY

# God used him despite his flaws and mistakes, and he will do the same for you and me

### Would the other disciples have joined Peter fishing if he was a liar/deceiver/cheater/unworthy/etc.



John 21:3B King James Version
3B "We also go with thee" They went
forth, and entered into a ship
immediately; and that night they
caught nothing.

## They were professional fisherman who caught no fish

## HOW FRUSTRATING AND EMBARRASSING MUST THEY HAVE FELT ??

### All that hard work for nothing??

### NOT SO FAST -> -> A new day dawns

#### **Luke 1:78 King James Version**

78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

#### **John 21:4 King James Version**

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

Christ addresses the men as "children" (compassion) and asks if they have any meat (concern of their need)

#### THE HONEST ANSWER OF THE DISCIPLES



## WITH GOD, AFTER HONESTY COMES INSTRUCTIONS

#### John 21:6A King James Version

6A And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find.

#### Specific commands given by Christ No objections were taken (credit to the disciples for this)

## DONT UNDERESTIMATE THIS DETAIL OF THE STORY!!!

# How many so-called "professionals" would have gotten an attitude?

#### John 21:6B King James Version

6B They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

#### A MIRACLE PERFORMED!!

# A night of nothing produced to a morning of over abundance!!

#### John 21:7-8 King James Version

- 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.
- 8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.

→ John recognizes Christ

→ Peter literally jumps in the water to swim to Jesus

→ The other disciples carry all the fish in a separate boat

#### John 21:9-12 King James Version

- 9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.
- 10 Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.
- 11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

# The Bible makes it a point to say that despite so many fish, the net to hold them didn't break

### JESUS CHRIST IS OUR NET, AND HE WILL NEVER LET US BREAK!!!

FOLLOWING GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS
WILL PRODUCE SO MANY BLESSINGS
IN OUR LIVES AND HE WANTS US
TO RECEIVE ALL OF THEM!!!

## The Lord invites the apostles to eat and dine with him

#### WHAT A TURN OF EVENTS!

Sadness and defeat the night before

Glory, victory, and praise in the morning

## This is a multi-faceted story about numerous topics

- The impact you have on other people's lives
- → The fact that your past mistakes won't define you forever
- → Answering God's questions with honesty, and the rewards that come with doing so

### LIKE JOHN, LET US RECOGNIZE CHRIST AS THE SOURCE OF OUR BLESSINGS!!

## LIKE PETER, LET'S HURRY AND DIVE IN THE WATER TOWARDS CHRIST!!!

## THE RESULT WILL BE FEASTING WITH THE LORD AND HIS FELLOWSHIP!!!

