

Calling the Twelve

Mt. 10:1-4, 16, 28-32, 37-39 // Mt. 12:9-15 // Mark 3:14-19 // Luke 6:6-16

By Tom Taylor

One evening, Jesus left the crowd and climbed a mountain
For He wanted to be alone to talk with His Father and to pray for the entire night
He was about to call a select group of disciples to Himself
Don't you know the first time the Lord and His Twelve got together
That **that** was a Most Glorious Sight!?

At daybreak He came down the mountain and called the select group to His side
These 12 were to stay with Him, that He might teach them, and prepare them to preach
He gave them, each and all, the power to cast out demons, and the power to heal the
sickly

The 12 were just beginning to get the sense that their lives were changing forever...
And, yes, The Change was happening quickly....

First came Simon (renamed **Peter**), and, then, his brother **Andrew**
Brothers **James** and **John** – “sons of thunder” – they were the second two

And the “third two” ? **Philip** and **Bartholomew**

Then came **Thomas**, the twin

And a former tax collector, **Matthew**

Then a second **James** (sometimes called “James the Less”)

Next came **Thaddaeus** (also called Judas...but he MUCH preferred Thaddaeus)

And another **Simon** – known as Simon the Zealot

Then, finally, there is **Judas Iscariot**, who betrayed the Lord

He said to the 12, “I’m sending you out like sheep among wolves

Therefore, be wise as serpents, yet, harmless as doves

People will hate you as they hate me . . . but don't be afraid

The Father is watching over you.”

*(for **that** is how much He loves us – it's absolutely true!)*

“He knows when a sparrow falls to the ground

And you're more valuable than a sparrow.

He knows even how many hairs are on your head.”

(Gospel truth? You bet it is - for it's what Jesus said!)

Your family's gonna want you to be loyal to them instead of to Me

IF you choose their approval, you're not worthy . . . you see?

If you follow Me, you're to take up your cross and bear My shame

If you lose your life for my sake, you will FIND it in My name

