



## I. INTRO/REVIEW

- A. I Live different, because I AM different

### 1 Peter 2:9

- B. Now, I want to learn to treat the things that God calls precious and valuable as such.
- C. Five ways that we should honor God:
- Honor God with your time
  - Honor God with your talents
  - Honor God with your temple
  - Honor God with your treasure
  - Honor God with your heart

## II. “Live Different” cannot be done apart from abiding in Christ

- “Live Different” is unavoidable IF in fact you are abiding in Christ
- A. He is the vine, I am the branch
- B. T R U T H
- C. “If you want to be free, choose the right master”
- D. Let’s look at the early church and the ones who God used to begin it all

## III. But first: Prophecy (will begin and end with a Word)

**Isaiah 60:1-2 (KJV) Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee (Song from last week).**

## IV. Early Church: They were troublemakers and rabble-rousers

**Matthew 28:19-20 (MSG) “God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I’ll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.”**

- A. This is what they were charged with
- B. This is what we are charged with
- C. There is not another plan
- D. Thank you FATHER for the HOLY BREATH OF GOD living in us. To “Live Different” in my life, is most purely lived out, when I am following the Holy Spirit

**Acts 1:7-8 (NKJV) And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**



## V. Ordinary Men

**Peter** ~ A fisherman. The first to call him LORD and one of the first to DENY him as well. His death was ordered by the Roman Emperor Nero. Crucified upside down.

**Andrew** ~ Peter's brother and also a fisherman. Brought Peter to the Lord. He first followed John the Baptist. He is believed to have traveled to what we know as Turkey, Greece. He was also crucified.

**Thomas** ~ We don't know what he did for sure. He did go fishing with the other two. He gets a bad rap, of course, however he boldly declares MY LORD, MY GOD! He traveled east of Syria and it is believed he died being stabbed by soldiers.

**Phillip** ~ In John's recordings Phillip was the first to hear from Jesus "follow me." He then goes and tells Nathaniel, we found the Messiah. When Nathaniel questions and doubts him, Phillip simply replies "come and see." Phillip was involved in a powerful man's wife turning to Jesus and his reward for that was to be arrested and put to death.

**Nathaniel** (Bartholomew) ~ He had regional pride. Jesus called him an Israelite indeed. There was nothing fake about him. He was believed to be a great searcher of the scripture and scholar of the law and prophets. He traveled to Persia, India and Armenia. No solid account of his death in history, but every account given does count him as dying for his faith in Jesus (TRUTH).

**James** ~ He is the brother of John. The way they are mentioned together they were obviously very close. Jesus called him and his brother "sons of thunder." Acts 12 lets us know that he was executed by the sword... and it pleased the Jews.

**James the younger** ~ Cousin of Jesus. He was known in Jerusalem as "the just one" because of his consistency in prayer and for his devotion to Christ and how he lived out his faith. The Jews saw the church growing and were angry and asked James to denounce it all, of course he would not and was stoned. He was finally killed when he was struck in the head with a club and his body was cut into pieces.

**Jude** (Thaddeus) ~ Asked a great question that led to Jesus giving us the powerful truth. "Lord, how is it that you are going to reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Some will love me and keep my Word, some will not. To those who do, the Father will be sending one who will lead you and remind you of truth."

**Matthew** ~ The IRS agent. The tax collectors were despised by the Jews. Wrote down the first detailed account of Christ. He gets up and leaves it all behind for the words "follow me." He invited all kinds of others to come to know Jesus.

**Matthew 9:10-13 (MSG)** Later when Jesus was eating supper at Matthew's house with his close followers, a lot of disreputable characters came and joined them. When the Pharisees saw him keeping this kind of company, they had a fit, and lit into Jesus' followers. "What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and misfits?" Jesus, overhearing, shot back, "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this Scripture means: 'I'm after mercy, not religion.' I'm here to invite outsiders, not coddle insiders."

**Simon** ~ He was at least one of the original disciples that was a "zealot." They were adamant about the fact that Rome was an occupying force and were determined to overthrow the occupation by any means necessary. God chose this man to work alongside and become a brother to a tax collector. God is smarter than me.



**John** ~ Also a “Son of Thunder” as Jesus would call him and his brother James. It is believed he is the only disciple who died of natural causes. He was in Ephesus preaching the Gospel, where it is believed he also wrote his “Gospel” and 3 letters to the church. He was pretty outspoken about pagan worship which was common there. It didn’t go over well with the Roman emperor Domitian, who by the way had built a temple to himself. So he had John exiled to the Island of Patmos. It was there Jesus visited him and gave him the “Revelation.”

**Paul** ~ He was Saul. He knew many of the early Christians. He chose to see them killed because they were problem causers. He was present at the killing of Stephen. Jesus met him on his journey and introduced Himself and asked, “Why are you persecuting ME?”

**VI. Live different in wherever God has you at the moment and in ALL you do**

**Habakkuk 2:14 (NKJV) For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.**