

THE TURNING POINT

TOOLBOX

- THINK
- OBSERVE
- CLOSE-UP
- WRITE
- DISCUSS
- FEELINGS
- BRAINSTORM
- REFERENCE
- PASSAGE
- ARTICLE
- BIG IDEA
- CROSSROAD

BRAINSTORM

What are examples of students being selected in the collegiate world?

OK, I CAN USE 12 MEN FOR THE JOB. THERE'S NO SALARY, PLENTY OF HARDSHIP, AND YOU'LL BE KILLED IN THE END... ... ANY VOLUNTEERS?



EXPLORE

Should selection occur among believers? Why or why not?

TURNING POINT

A point at which a significant change occurs

The turning point in disciple making occurs when you select individuals with the purpose of preparing them to reproduce the ministry.

ON YOUR OWN

There are many examples throughout the scriptures of believers being selected for a variety of specific tasks or roles. Check out:

Passage	People	Purpose
Acts 6:1-6		
Acts 13:1-3		
Acts 16:1-5		

WHAT IF ...

What if the organizations on campus never selected?

WHAT IF ...

What if Jesus had never selected the apostles?

WHAT IF ...

What if in your personal ministry you never selected?

In light of all that is at stake, it is important that we learn the principles of selection from the Master . . .

CONTEXT

The day the Master selected . . .

"Having given us a sketch of the general character of the ministry of Jesus (4:14-5:11) and depicted the relationship of Jesus to His opponents (5:12-6:11), Luke now describes the relationship of Jesus to His disciples." * It is not a coincidence that after the official religious leadership rejected Him (6:1-11), Jesus selected the twelve and began to focus His ministry on His future leadership.

*I. H. Marshall, *The New Bible Commentary*, Revised, p. 898

LUKE 6:12-16

- 12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.
- 13 When morning came,
he called his disciples to him
and chose twelve of them,
whom he also designated apostles:
- 14 Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew,
James, John,
Philip, Bartholomew,
- 15 Matthew, Thomas,
James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot,
- 16 Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

INSIGHT

"Among those who came to hear Jesus was a group who regularly followed him and were committed to his teaching. At least 72 men were included, since this many disciples were sent out on an evangelistic campaign (10:1,17). . . . From such disciples Jesus at this time chose 12 to be his apostles, meaning: ones sent with a special commission."

—Note, *New International Version Study Bible*, p. 1549.

What principles can we learn from Jesus' model?

► Prayer

DISCUSS

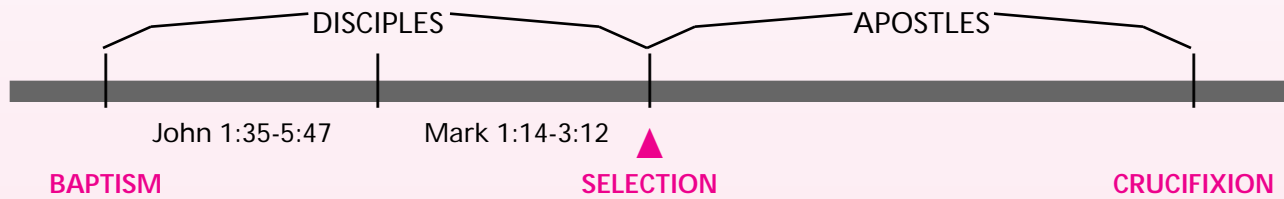
Why was Jesus praying?


CROSS-REFERENCE


Compare John 15:16 with John 17:6. What insight do these passages provide on what occurred that night?

KEY PRINCIPLE

► Preparation




 Selection begins by public willingness to publicly associate.
—Carl Wilson


 **INSIGHT**

It takes time to prepare for selection. It is estimated that Jesus spent 1 3/4 years with the disciples before he chose the apostles (Winter, A.D. 27-Fall, A.D. 28) and 1 1/2 years after (Fall, A.D. 28-Spring, A.D. 30)

JOHN 1:35-5:47	MARK 1:14-3:12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spends a day together with two disciples (1:38, 39) Travels from the Jordan River to Galilee with disciples (1:43) Attends a wedding together (2:1ff) Spends a few days with Jesus' family in Capernaum (2:12) Goes to Jerusalem for the Passover with disciples (2:13-22) Does some baptizing ministry in the countryside (3:22 & 4:1, 2) Travels back to Galilee through Samaria (4:4ff) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calls the men to follow Him (1:16-20) Teaches in the synagogue (1:21-28) Stays at Simon & Andrew's home with James & John (1:29) Goes preaching throughout Galilee together (1:38, 39) Dinner party with Levi (2:15-17) etc., etc.


 **EXPLORE**


Why are formal times such as being involved in evangelism valuable preparation for selection?

 **EXPLORE**

Why are informal times such as spending time together at each other's homes valuable preparation for selection?

► People

 ... at first they do not impress us as being key men In short, these men selected by the Lord to be His assistants represented an average cross section of the lot of society in their day. Not the kind of group one would expect to win the world for Christ. Yet Jesus saw in these simple men the potential of leadership for the Kingdom.
—Robert Coleman

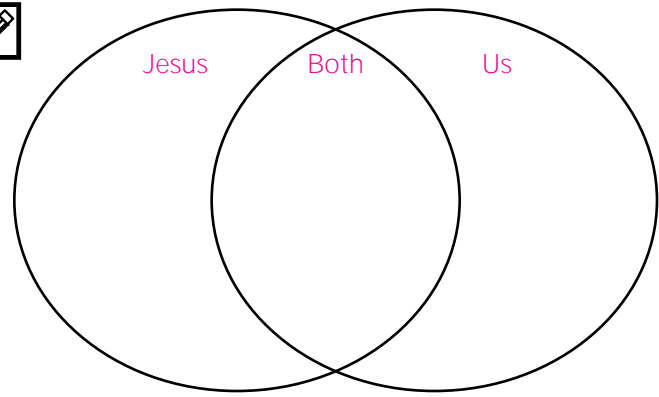
 **EXPLORE**

Look up these encounters between the disciples and Jesus. What do they reveal about the kind of men they were?

- John 1:35-42
- John 1:43-45
- Mark 1:16-20
- Mark 2:13-17

Putting the principles into practice . . .

COMPARE & CONTRAST



CASE STUDY

Melvin had led his Bible study for a semester. He had had 5-7 men come to it, off and on. Three had been real consistent, though one of them he hardly knew. His best friend and roommate came a couple of times. It seemed that everyone had a busy schedule, so they hadn't done anything special as a group. In fact, they rarely saw each other on campus. Now Melvin's discipler was challenging him to begin discipling some of the key men.

In light of the principles in this study, what advice would you give to Melvin? Where should he go from here?



EVALUATE

What stage is my disciple-making ministry at? Am I ready for selection?



EVALUATE

Who am I involved with who demonstrates the readiness to become involved in a more concentrated opportunity of Christian growth, training and ministry?



PLAN

What are the next steps that I should take in my disciple-making ministry?



EXPLORE

Selection implies that there will be people who will not be selected. How should Melvin continue to relate to those not selected?



ON YOUR OWN

Lazarus was a friend of Jesus but was never selected to be an apostle. Read about their relationship and Jesus' involvement with him in John 11:1-44.

FOR FURTHER STUDY: Read "Selection," Chapter 1 in *Master Plan for Evangelism*, by Robert Coleman (Spire Books).

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are taken from the *New International Version*, ©1973, 1978, 1984 by the International Bible Society. Published by Zondervan Bible Publishers, Grand Rapids, Michigan.