

LIFE Group Sermon Questions

The Center of Everything: Gathered

Pastor Josh Parsons

November 2, 2025

Luke 6:12-16



THE ORCHARD

Luke 6:12-16

“In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. 13 And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles: 14 Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, 15 and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, 16 and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.”

Sermon Outline

The marks of a true disciple:

- I. Ordinary (Luke 6:14-16)
- II. Imperfect (Luke 6:14-16)
- III. Sent out (Luke 6:13)
- IV. Hand-picked (Luke 6:13)
- V. Faithful (Luke 6:16)

Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn't know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?
2. Why do you think we value prayer less than Jesus did? What do you think we can do to prioritize it more?
3. In Luke 6:12, Jesus prays in the wake of opposition (see Luke 6:11) and on the cusp of a big decision (see Luke 6:13ff). Think through and share some other specific times when prayer would be (or has been) a blessing to you.
4. What are some other examples of “ordinary” people in Scripture who God used to do great things? Who are some ordinary people you know who've made an impact for Jesus? How do you think Jesus could use *you* as an ordinary person?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31. How is weakness a prerequisite for usefulness? What danger is there in thinking we *don't* have flaws?

6. Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. Paul says to the church in Corinth that he doesn't want their faith to "rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." How can we honor and look up to Christian leaders without accidentally putting our faith in them? If all Christians (even the best ones!) are imperfect like the twelve disciples (and Paul!), what's the danger of putting our faith in them?

7. How does knowing you were hand-picked by God encourage you?

8. Jesus says in John 6:44, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him." Why do you think God set things up this way? What does such a "system" do to our boasting? What does it do for God's glory?

9. Pastor Josh made clear that the twelve disciples were *special* apostles (see Luke 6:13) and that no Christian is an apostle quite like them. We are, however, *a little bit* like them in that we've been sent out into the world to proclaim the good news of Christ's Gospel. How does knowing we've been commissioned by King Jesus for this work encourage you in it?

10. Before the twelve apostles were sent out, Jesus drew them in. He taught them, cared for them, and spent time with them. How would you rate your relationship with Jesus? Would you say you're "close"? Why or why not? What could you do to take one step *closer* this week?

11. Read John 10:22-30. How does this passage encourage you? How does it spur you on in your faithfulness to Jesus?