

246 12 Ordinary Men

Lesson 5— James & John

I. The Sons of Thunder (James & John)

A. Background

1. They were BROTHERS from a well-known family
2. They were SECOND in command behind Peter
 - *the 3 of them spent more time with Jesus than any others
 - *they were the only ones at Jesus' transfiguration, Gethsemane, and more

B. How they finished

1. James
 - a. first to be KILLED for his faith (**Acts 12:1-3**)
 - *must have been boldly living for the faith
2. John
 - a. human author of John, 1-3 John, & Revelation
 - b. the majority of his books focused on LOVING others & Christ
 - *the word "love" is mentioned over 80 times in his books
 - c. HUMILITY is also a hidden theme, as he never mentions his name in his books

II. "Too COOL for SCHOOL"

A. They argued over which of them was the GREATEST (**Luke 9:46-48**)

*Jesus responded with, "whoever is the least among you."

B. Then they were JEALOUS that someone else was doing things for Christ (**Luke 9:49-50**)

C. Next, they tried to trick Jesus to pick them to be the GREATEST (**Matthew 20:20-28**)

1. They got their MOM to ask Jesus to put them next to Him in Heaven
2. Jesus responded with "the FIRST shall be LAST..."
3. They were more worried about exalting THEMSELVES than others or Christ

III. So...What Happened?

- A. It took seeing Jesus die on a cross for them to realize what humility & love was
- B. They looked back on their life as disciples of Christ and saw all of their regrets

Ask Yourself...

1. When you graduate high school, will you look back with regrets?
2. What will it take for you to see what Christ did on the cross and serve Him for it?
3. Are you willing to be passionate for Christ going into this school year?

Verse for the Week: **Philippians 4:8**

Take it Home: **Philippians 4:1-21**