Series: Teaming Up With Christ (5/27/18)

Title: John

2nd most prominent Apostle.

Not a lot of Biography on his past.

We believe he is the youngest of the 12 Apostles.

We believe he was the last to die of the 12 Apostles.

The Circumstances of John:

His Family:

John: Name means "Jehovah is Gracious"

His Father: Zebedee (gift of Jehovah) (Matt 4:21)

His Mother: Salome, (Mk 16:1)

Sister to Mary, the mother of Jesus

(Matt 27:56; John 19:25)

He was raised in a godly home.

He had been prepared for Christ's Service. Are we preparing our children for Christ's Service?

His Brother: James (Matt 4:21)

They were Called the "Sons of Thunder" (Mk 3:17)

His Fishing: Worked with his brother in their Father's Commercial Fishing business.

(Mark 1:19-20) And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. 20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Are we teaching our kids Our Vocation?

They Obviously were doing well.

They owned their own boat. They had hired help.

They knew the High Priest: (John 18:15)

They were well thought of in Society. Nevertheless, John was no stranger to Manual Labor. If our kids can run a Phone, Controller, & a Tablet, They CAN run a Dishwasher, Clother Washer 7 Dryer, Vacume, clothes Iron.

Peter and Zebedee were partners in the business. (Lk 5:10) And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon.

The Conversion of John:

(John 1:15) Was pointed to Jesus by John the Baptist. John Baptist's ministry was to point others to Jesus (John 1:35-37) John & Andrew followed Jesus.

(Vs 36) "Behold the Lamb of God" God provided the lamb as Abraham said (Gen 22)

God's purpose for the lamb as John the Baptist said: (John 1:29) "taketh away the sin of the world."

Conversion: (John 1:37) And the two disciples <u>heard</u> him speak, and they <u>followed</u> Jesus. (Rom 10:17)

<u>Discipleship started Immediately</u>: (John 1:27-29) (John 1:39) "Come and See" / "Came and Saw"

Come and you will see. (Faith) (Rom 10:17) Most people answer, "We'll see about coming"

Most people live well below the level of spiritual mediocrity because they don't "Come" first. They want to "See" first.

Obedience always precedes blessings! Do you "Have to See" 1st before you Obey?

The Character of John:

Humility of John:

He doesn't reference himself by name: (Jn 1:37; 13:23; 19:26; 20:2-8) "The disciple, whom Jesus loved" Are we willing to serve w/o recognition?

Are we willing to serve w/o recognition?

Does Your Name have to be on Everything?

Love of John:

Paul was the Apostle of Grace John was the Apostle of Love

Referring to himself "The disciple, whom Jesus loved" 3 Epistles focus on Love.

Mentioned 50 times in 1 John alone.

Perceptiveness of John:

The Grave Clothes: (John 20:6-8)

He saw & Believed

He understood the significance of the napkin.

He is the only gospel to reference it.

The Great Catch of Fish: (John 21:3-7) (Vs 7) John saw Christ in the miracle.

The World is quick to see God's judgement in Natural Disasters.

But very Few See God's grace at work in their daily lives.

Do you see God at work in your daily life?
Do you see God working in the Little things?
Or does it have to be a big thing for you to notice?

Have you ever seen a Miracles in your life?
Did you see Christ working in the Miracles?
The Difference in a Trial that destroys vs a Trial that strengthens is seeing God in it!

The Closeness of John:

4 times he refers to himself as "the One whom Jesus loved" (Jn 13:23; 20:2; 21:7,20)

Do you know that you share this with John?

Do you know that you are loved by Jesus?

You can actually refer to yourself as One that Jesus
Loves. Present Tense - Not Past Tense.

Illus: As a Parent, I don't always LIKE my kids, but I always LOVE them, Present Tense.

John documented how that he was not the only one. Mary & Martha (Jn 11:5)
Lazarus (John 11:3; 11;36)

John was Conscious of the fact that Christ loved Him.

Do you know that Christ Loves You?

Are you Conscious of this?

What keeps you from believing it?

When you get close to the Lord, the more you will know about Him and love Him.

The more you realize how much He loves you!

Are you and the Lord Close?

Was there a time when you were Close to the Lord?

Illus: Who do you think Moved?

Being Close to Jesus gave John some unique opportunities for blessings: Part of the Inner Circle.

Raising of Jarius' Daughter: (Luke 8:51)
They had insight into the Power of Christ over death.

Mount of Transfiguration: (Matt 17:1)
They had insight into Deity of Christ.
They saw his glory.
They heard the Father commend Him.
When you walk closely to the Lord, you will see miracles happen. (Matt 16:17-18)

He was at the Lord's side in the Upper Room:
(John 13:23) Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.
(John 13:25-26) 1st to learn who the betrayer was.

The Garden of Gethsemane: (Matt 26:36-43)
They had insight into the Prayer life of Christ.
They saw the Agony.
They heard the petition.
They felt the rebuke for failure (Mk 14:34, 38)
Do you draw close to Christ in Prayer?
Can you feel His presence?
Can you see His striving for you in prayer?

He was at the Trial at the High Priest's Home:

(Jn 18:15-16) Peter followed Jesus this far.

Would you follow Him into the trial/prison?

Will you follow Him into Work/School?

He was at the Cross of Calvary: (John 19:26) John was the only one to stay close, all the way to the Cross.

Will you follow Christ all the way to Death? (Rev 2:10)
John's devotion was unwavering!
Can we say that about ourselves?

That is why Jesus had John become the Caretaker of his mother, Mary: (Jn 19:26-27)

John was Steadfast.

John was Loyal, Through Thick and Thin!
Are we steadfast?

Can we consider ourselves Loyal to Christ?

Can Christ count on you to follow Him?

All the way to your own cross?

The Companions of John:

Peter, James, & John we the Inner Circle of Christ.

Peter & John went to the Trial. (John 18:15-16)

Peter & John received Mary's report. (John 20:2)

Peter & John went to the Tomb: (John 20:3-10)

Peter & John went into the temple to pray together

& healed the cripple: (Acts 3:1)

Peter & John were incarcerated together: (Acts 4:1-3)

Peter & John were arrested and beaten: (Acts 5:40)

Peter & John went to Samaria to help Philip with the revival: (Acts 8)

Now all this does not mean they always got along: (John 21:20-21) Peter asked what John would endure.

Are there certain Brothers & Sisters you find yourself serving with all the time?

Can you Praise God for their Faithfulness?

Even if you don't just click, can you thank God for their Steadfast Character?

The Compositions of John:

The Gospel of John:

The Last one written:

Depicts Jesus as God:

The Stated Purpose of him writing it: (John 20:31)

The Epistles of John:

1 John: Ch 1&2 Divine Light

Ch 3&4 Divine Love

Ch 5 Divine Life

Christians were falling prey to the deceptions of Satan

Christians were fighting each other.

Christians were loving the World.

False Teachers were on the Move.

Christians were doubting their Salvation.

II John 1 chapter: re: Believers Walk

We are to walk in Truth & Love

Warns of False Teachers.

III John 3 people:

Commends Gaius

Condemns Diotrephes

Compliments Demetrius

The Apocalypse: The Book of the Revelation, AKA: The Revelation of Jesus Christ.

Written while exiled to the Isle of Patmos.

Satan may have thought he had finally silenced the last of the Apostles.

He just gave John the Quiet place to write.

3 fold Division: (Rev 1:19) Write the things which

thou hast seen, Ch 1

and the things which are, Ch 2-3

and the things which shall be hereafter; Ch 4-22