

# STUDY GUIDE

## 7

# The Apostles, Mary, and Others

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 7**.

❖ Disciples are those who follow great teachers, called masters, wanting to learn about the mysteries of life. Jesus had many disciples.

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❖ The Apostles were 12 disciples chosen to share the ministry of Jesus and preach the Good News of the risen Lord. The number of apostles is the same as the 12 tribes of Israel. The 12 Apostles symbolized the new People of God.

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❖ Before Jesus called him, Peter was a simple fisherman named Simon. The name *Peter* means “rock.” Jesus made him the head of his Church.

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❖ Andrew was Peter’s brother and was one of the first men Jesus called to follow him. Andrew was later killed on an X-shaped cross.

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❖ Two apostles were named James. James the Greater was the brother of the apostle John. James the Greater was present at the Transfiguration of Jesus and the raising of Jairus’s daughter. James the Less was the brother of the apostle Jude. James the Less is credited with writing one of the New Testament letters.

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❖ Matthew is best known for being the apostle who immediately left his job as a tax collector to follow Jesus. He is also credited with writing one of the Gospels.

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❖ Thomas is best known for his doubt. He missed Jesus’ first appearance after the Resurrection and claimed he would never believe until he touched Christ’s wounds. However, when he saw Jesus, he fell to his knees and exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!”

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❖ Jude was a brother of James the Less and possibly a cousin of Jesus. He is credited as the author of a letter in the New Testament, and he is popular as the patron of hopeless cases.

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❖ Simon was a Zealot. But to follow Jesus, he had to channel his zeal into the peaceful pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

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❖ Judas was the apostle who betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Judas hanged himself instead of asking Jesus for forgiveness.

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❖ According to the Acts of the Apostles, Matthias replaced Judas as an apostle. Matthias had been a longtime follower of Jesus, and he had been a witness to the resurrected Lord.

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❖ Peter was appointed to be head of the Church. The pope is his successor. He is the pastor of the whole Church.

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❖ Mary was the first and best disciple. She devoted 30 years to Jesus before he began his public ministry, and she was with him when he died. One of her titles is Queen of the Apostles.

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