

# Lenten Sermon Series at Congo

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February 19, 2023

Week 1



God Chose . . .

God Chooses . . .

Places & People

To display who He is so that . . .

people will know God

and know themselves in light of God's will.



## Ephesians 1:1 – 10

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



Mark 3:13 And He [Jesus] went up on the mountain and called to him those whom He desired, and they came to him. 14 And He appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with Him and He might send them out to preach 15 and have authority to cast out demons. 16 He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom He gave the name Peter); 17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); 18 Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.



Matthew 4:18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And He said to them, **“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”** 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. 21 And going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed Him.

**Readiness to Follow the Lord**



Luke 9:51 When the days drew near for Him to be taken up, He set His face to go to Jerusalem. 52 And He sent messengers ahead of Him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for Him. 53 But the people did not receive Him, because His face was set toward Jerusalem. 54 And when His disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” 55 But He [Jesus] turned and rebuked them. 56 And they went on to another village.

**Explosive Loyalty**



Matthew 20:20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to Him [Jesus] with her sons, and kneeling before Him she asked him for something. 21 And He said to her, "What do you want?" She said to Him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." 22 Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." 23 He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." (See Mark 10:35-37)

**Ambition for Greatness**



John 15:16 You did not choose (eklego) Me, but I chose (eklego) you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.

Growing up INTO JESUS

Explosiveness leading to the balance of TRUTH & LOVE

Greatness IS sacrificial SERVICE

