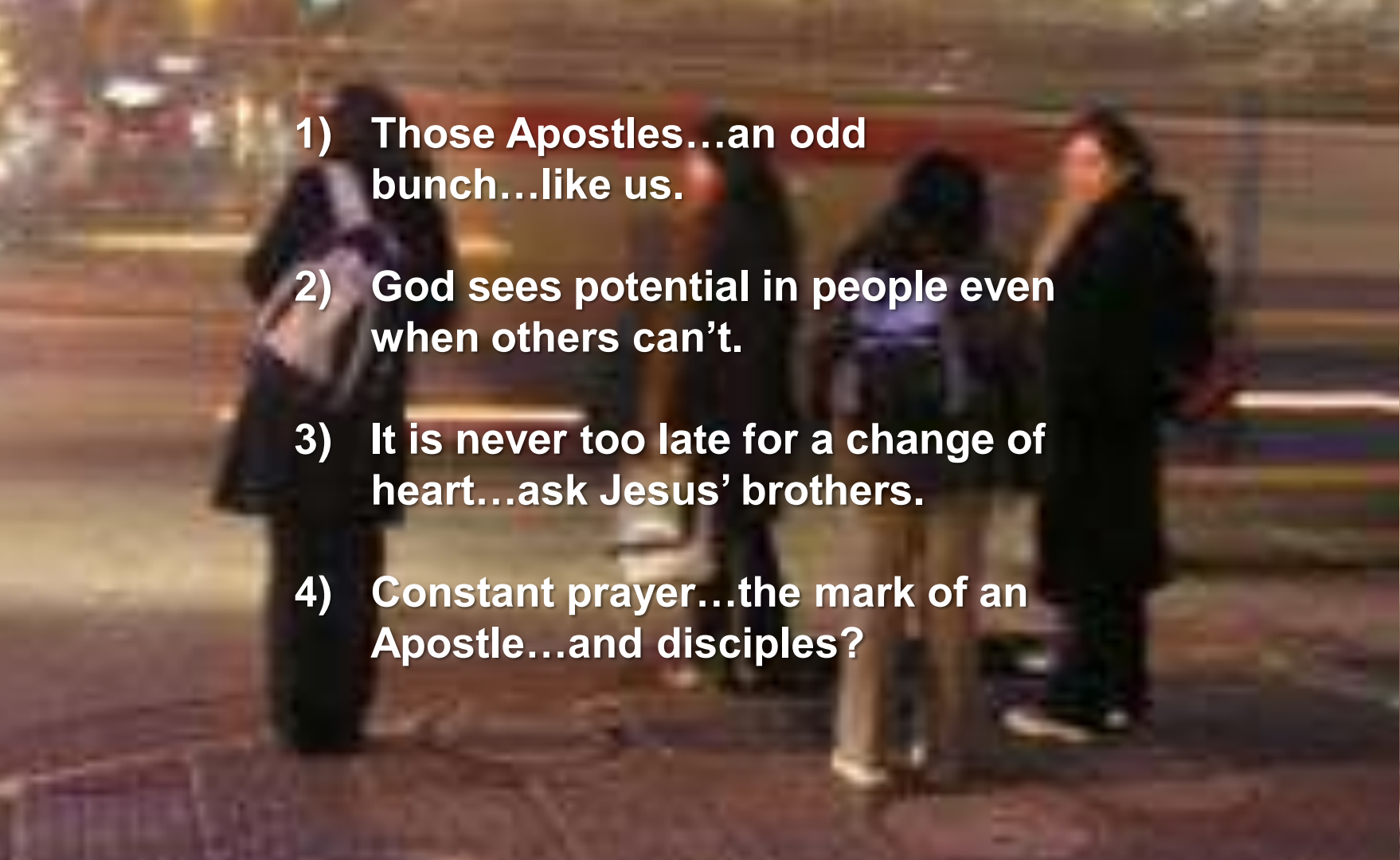


THE WAIT

Acts 1:12-26



TAKE HOME

- 
- 1) Those Apostles...an odd bunch...like us.
 - 2) God sees potential in people even when others can't.
 - 3) It is never too late for a change of heart...ask Jesus' brothers.
 - 4) Constant prayer...the mark of an Apostle...and disciples?

Acts 1:12-26 NLT

Matthias Replaces Judas

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. ¹³ When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the Zealot), and Judas (son of James). ¹⁴ They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

Acts 1:12-26 NLT

¹⁵ During this time, when about 120 believers were together in one place, Peter stood up and addressed them. ¹⁶ “Brothers,” he said, “the Scriptures had to be fulfilled concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. This was predicted long ago by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David. ¹⁷ Judas was one of us and shared in the ministry with us.”

¹⁸ (Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines. ¹⁹ The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name *Akeldama*, which means “Field of Blood.”)

²⁰ Peter continued, “This was written in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ It also says, ‘Let someone else take his position.’

Acts 1:12-26 NLT

²¹ “So now we must choose a replacement for Judas from among the men who were with us the entire time we were traveling with the Lord Jesus—
²² from the time he was baptized by John until the day he was taken from us. Whoever is chosen will join us as a witness of Jesus’ resurrection.”

²³ So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they all prayed, “O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen ²⁵ as an apostle to replace Judas in this ministry, for he has deserted us and gone where he belongs.” ²⁶ Then they cast lots, and Matthias was selected to become an apostle with the other eleven.

The Apostles... Drafted and Signed by Jesus

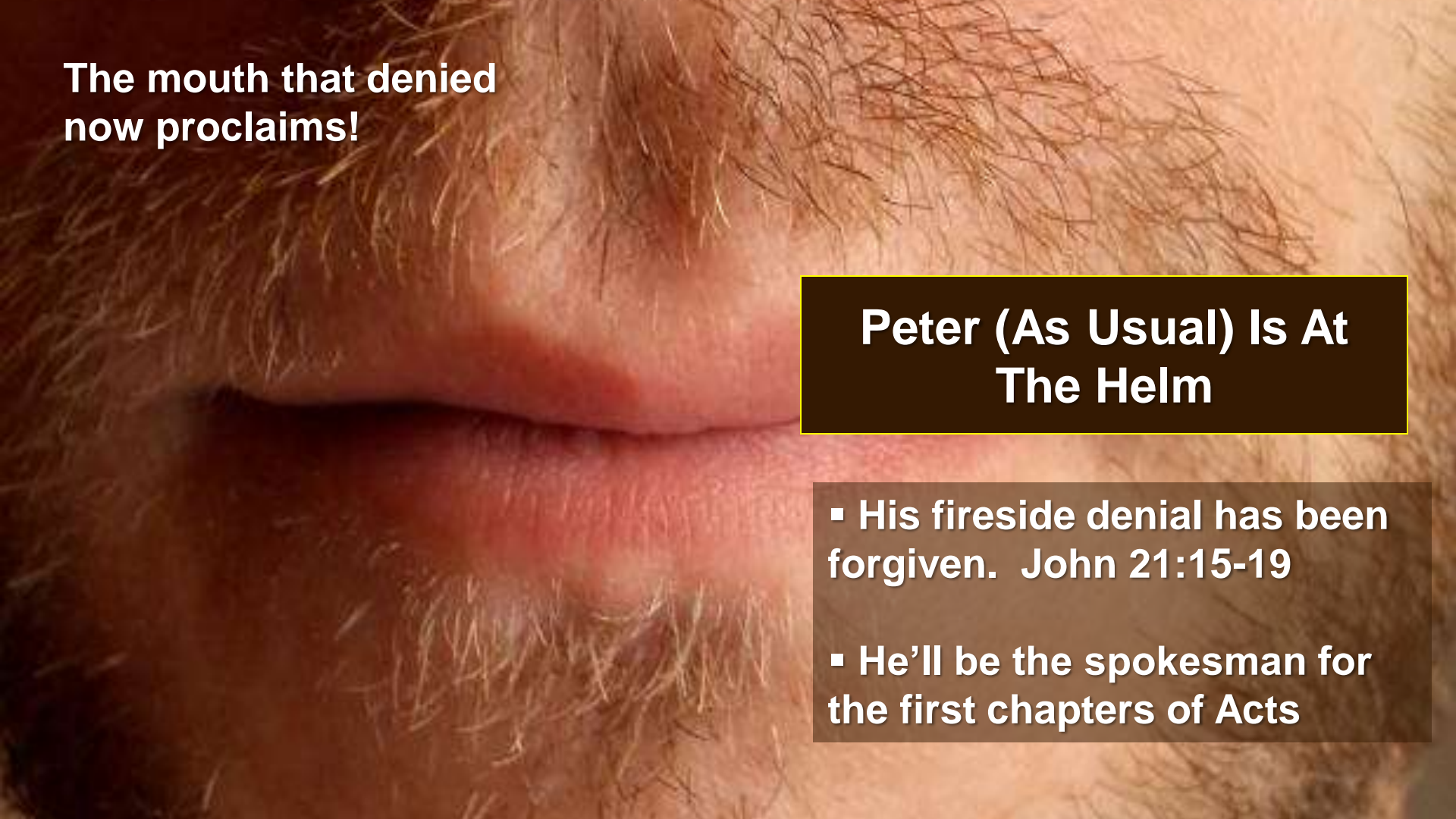
- **Peter, James and John
...Jesus' closest friends and
confidants.**
- **Simon the Zealot
...a member of 'the Fourth
Philosophy'**
- **Fishermen, a tax collector
and other non-Egalitarians.**





Other Men And Women Joined Them In The 'Upper Room'

- **The 'women'...**
Luke 8:2,3 Luke 23:55
- **Mary, Jesus' mother**
...the last mention of her in
the New Testament.
- **Jesus' brothers**
...now believing! John 7:5

A close-up photograph of a man's mouth and beard. The man has a thick, reddish-brown beard and mustache. His mouth is slightly open, showing his teeth. The background is a solid, light brown color.

**The mouth that denied
now proclaims!**

Peter (As Usual) Is At The Helm

- His fireside denial has been forgiven. John 21:15-19
- He'll be the spokesman for the first chapters of Acts

Dealing With Judas' Departure

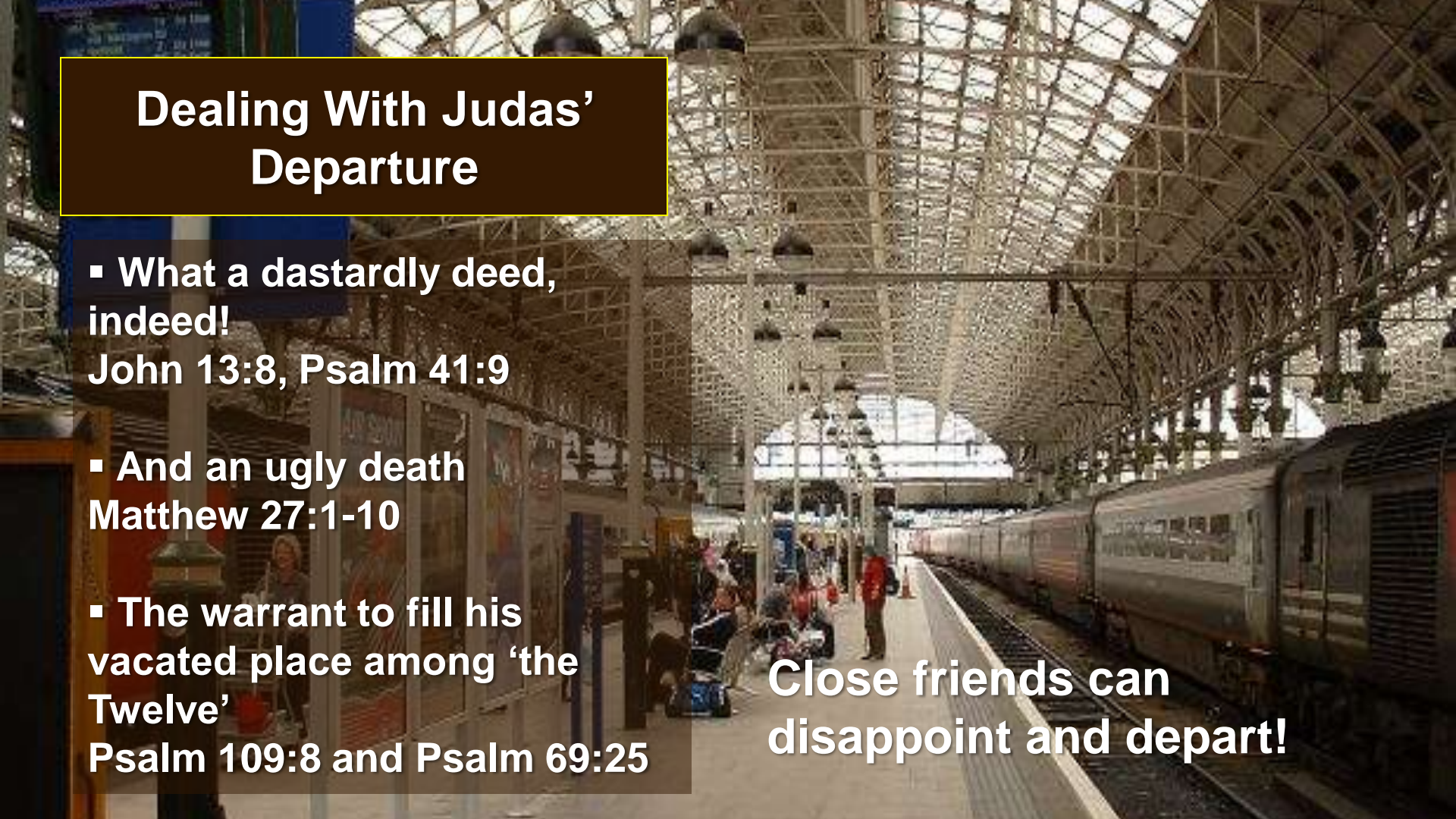
- What a dastardly deed, indeed!

John 13:8, Psalm 41:9

- And an ugly death
Matthew 27:1-10

- The warrant to fill his vacated place among 'the Twelve'
Psalm 109:8 and Psalm 69:25

Close friends can disappoint and depart!





Who Is Qualified To Join This Special Forces Team?

- **A long-time associate of Jesus**
- **A witness of Jesus' miracles...and resurrected body!**
- **The same Lord chose the 12 now selects number 13.**

**The church must always
move forward**

**And Jesus hands the
Gospel to you too.**

Oh, The Odd Bunch

- From one end of the political spectrum to the other.
- The leader's faith had collapsed ...at the bonfire.
- The treasurer of the group bailed out.
- Yet Jesus hands the Gospel to them ...and leaves.

A photograph of a snowy street during a heavy snowstorm. A line of cars is stuck in traffic, with their headlights on. In the foreground, the back of a dark Toyota SUV is visible. The snow is falling heavily, creating a hazy atmosphere. The scene is set in an urban area with buildings and streetlights visible in the background.

How About Our Crew ...Under Qualified?

Overcoming the potholes,
difficulties and life's
storms make us better
followers of Christ.

- Sinners all!
- We've all hit life's potholes.
- We fit the model
...assorted and tattered.

A photograph of two men outdoors. On the left, a man with a full brown beard and glasses, wearing a black shirt and a red tie, is speaking and gesturing with his right hand. On the right, a younger man with brown hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt and a patterned tie, is looking down at a smartphone he is holding. The background consists of green and yellow foliage.

**Fortunately, Those Aren't
The Qualifications For
Service!**

**Today, we have even
more ways to share the
story! But are we?**

- God is looking for people who are: Faithful... Available... Trainable.

- He's enlisting people with a story to tell ...a story of redemption and rescue.

- God can only use people who see the world as needy...for Jesus.

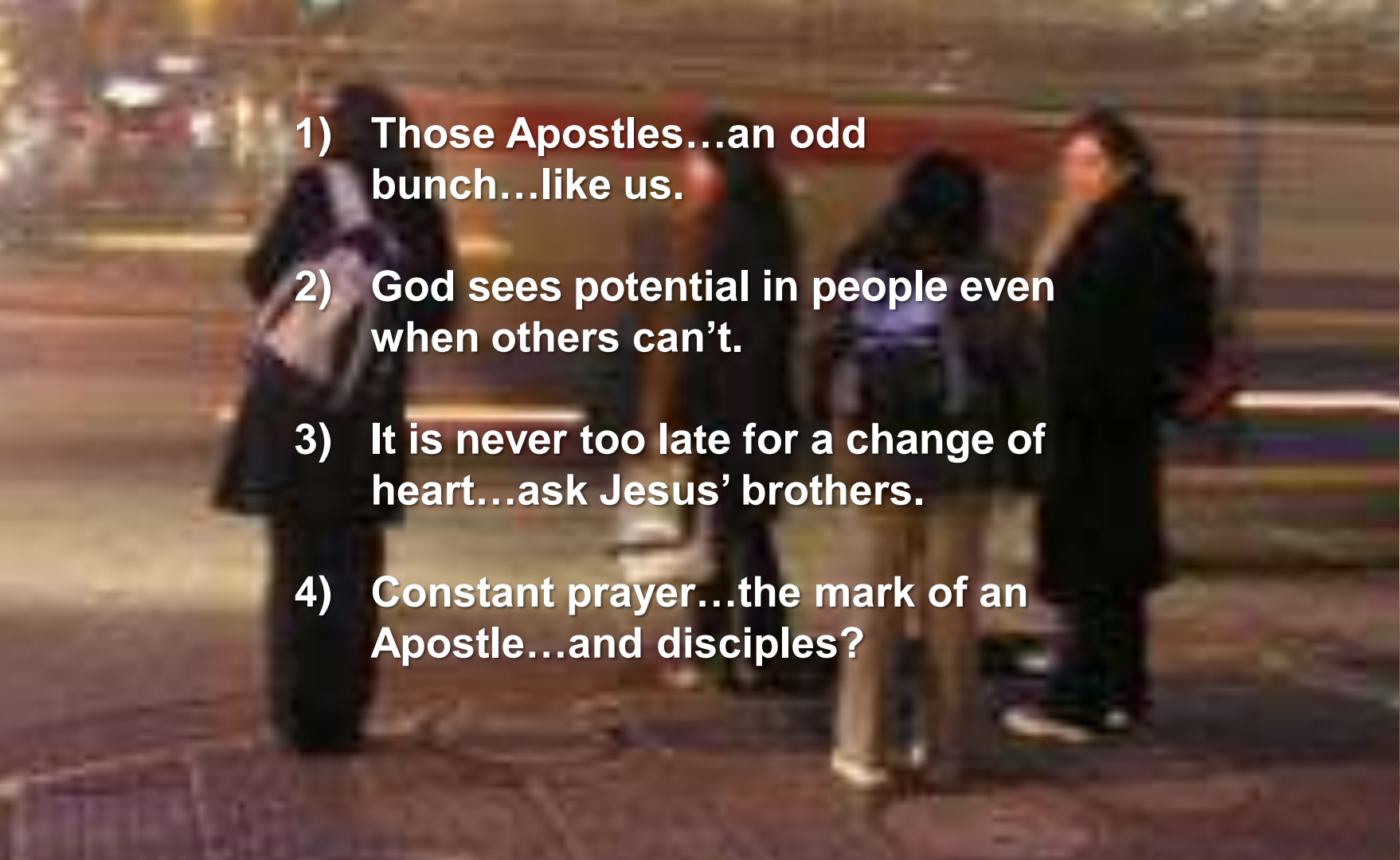


Confession

**I believe that Jesus is
the Christ, the Son of
the living God.**

**I trust him as my Lord
and Savior.**

TAKE HOME

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Prayer



**Go and tell the Story!
Your Audience Awaits!**

