

Tim & Doris, TJ, Ari, & Gracie Eckert



Missionaries to Asia Pacific



Asia Pacific

Now Serving the 40
countries of our
Region with **Natural
Disaster Relief** and
Asia's Little Ones





asia's little ones

Intersession

Resourcing

Advocacy

Training



asia's little ones



Homes



asia's little ones



Health



asia's little ones



Education

How far will you go?

Following Jesus even when it doesn't make sense.

John 11:1-16

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick."

John 11:1-16

But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this." So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, he stayed where he was for the next two days. Finally, he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea."

John 11:1-16

But his disciples objected. “Rabbi,” they said, “only a few days ago the people in Judea were trying to stone you. Are you going there again?”

Jesus replied, “There are twelve hours of daylight every day. During the day people can walk safely. They can see because they have the light of this world. But at night there is danger of stumbling because they have no light.” Then he said, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up.”

John 11:1-16

The disciples said, “Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!” They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died.

So he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. And for your sakes, I’m glad I wasn’t there, for now you will really believe. Come, let’s go see him.”

Thomas, nicknamed the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go, too—and die with Jesus.”

What do we draw out of the statement, “Let’s go too — and die with Jesus”?

1. Thomas disbelief in Jesus’s choice.
2. Thomas seems to have a bit of sarcasm as well.
3. Thomas’s willingness to follow Jesus, even to the point of death.



What drives a man to follow another man, even to the point of death?

10 of the 12 disciples died as
martyrs.

- ❖ Thomas [Didymus] : Martyred thrust through by multiple spears while ministering in India .Preached the Gospel in Parthia [Iran] and in Kerala, [southern India] where yet today the Mar Thoma Church exists.

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martyrs.

- ❖ Andrew: (brother of Peter) Martyrdom by crucifixion (bound, not nailed, to an "X-shaped" cross) at Patræ, Achaia [southern Greece]. Hung alive for two days, preaching to spectators all the while.

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- ❖ Bartholomew (Nathaniel): was skinned alive and crucified, head downward by the idolaters of Armenia (Western Asia near Turkey). The most travelled of the Disciples after Jesus death, Preached the Gospel in Mesopotamia [Iraq], Persia [Iran], Ethiopia, Arabia and India.

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- ❖ James the Greater (son of Zebedee / brother of John) :
Beheaded with a sword by Herod Agrippa around 44 AD near Palestine and not far from where he was a local missionary to the Jews in Judea. His accuser was converted by James' courage & the two were beheaded together.

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martyrs.

- ❖ James the Lesser [son of Alphaeus]: Was first Bishop of Jerusalem Martyred in his early 90's by being thrown from a pinnacle of the Temple at Jerusalem , then he was stoned and had his head bashed in with club.

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- ❖ Matthew (Levi) : Martyred about 60 AD by being staked and speared to the ground. Preached the Gospel in Ethiopia (Africa) and was killed for questioning the morals of the king.

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martyrs.

- ❖ Jude (Thaddeus) : Wrote Book of Jude. Martyred by being beaten with a club then crucified 72AD at the city of Edessa [Turkey] while on a missionary trip that went to Persia (Iran).

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martyrs.

- ❖ Simon Peter (The Rock): Martyrdom by crucifixion at Rome by Nero. Crucified around 68 AD up-side-down at his request because he did not consider himself worthy to be crucified like Jesus.

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- ❖ Philip: Said to have been tortured, impaled by iron hooks in his ankles and hung upside down to die. preaching until he died 54 AD in Heliopolis, Egypt. Preached in Phrygia which was in the Roman Province of Asia near Ephesus [Turkey]

10 of the 12 disciples died as martyrs.

- ❖ Simon [The Canaanite] : ·Called "The Zealot" because he was associated with that sect. Thought to have ministered mostly in Jordan. Martyred by crucifixion in Britain in 74AD and then sawn in half.

10 of the 12 disciples died as martyrs.

- ❖ John (The Beloved) (son of Zebedee / brother of James) : Natural Death The only apostle who did not meet a martyrs death. Banished by Roman Emperor Domitian to Isle of Patmos where penned Revelation, the last book in the Bible. Was later freed & went to preach in Turkey and died at 100.

Honorable Mentions

- ❖ Mark (John Mark): Martyred - dragged to death.
- ❖ Luke: The Physician. Was hanged on an olive tree,
- ❖ Matthias: Was stoned and beheaded at Jerusalem.
- ❖ Apostle Paul (Saul): was beheaded by Emperor Nero at Rome.
- ❖ James (The half-brother of Jesus): Thrown some 100 feet off a wall, this was done to him after he repeatedly refused to deny his faith in Jesus. He survived the fall and was beat to death with clubs

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1. They spent time daily with Jesus

We must spend time in the Word and in Prayer

How do we know how to follow Jesus, if we aren't in his word and in prayer daily?

If we don't know how to follow Jesus, how can we lead others?

If we can't lead others, are we really following Jesus?



501
PSALM 23
God's tender and constant care.
A Psalm of Da'vid.
THE LORD is ^a my shepherd;
^b I shall not want.

“I’ve heard people call it a famine. A famine of knowing the Bible. During a famine people waste away for lack of sustenance. Some people die. Those who remain need nourishment; they need to be revived. And if they have any hope of remaining alive over time, their life situation has to change in conspicuous ways.”

–Kenneth Berding (The Crisis of Biblical Illiteracy)

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2. They fully trusted Jesus, regardless if they understood the why.
3. They gave up their personal identity, and identified as followers of Jesus.
4. They grasped a reality of eternity.
5. They loved people.

So what about you?

“Let’s go too — and die with Jesus”?