

## Conclusion:

God took Peter, an extrovert, and shaped him to be a leader in the most important kingdom to every grace the planet. God uses ordinary people to accomplish His eternal purposes.

## Memorize:

“I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.” Matthew 16:18.

FOUR LISTS OF APOSTLES OF CHRIST in the order listed by the writers			
Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:16-19	Luke 6:12-19	Acts 1:13
Simon	Simon	Simon	Peter
Andrew	James	Andrew	James
James	John	James	John
John	Andrew	John	Andrew
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas
Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew
Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew
James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus
Thaddaeus	Thaddaeus	Simon the Zealot	Simon the Zealot
Simon the Cananaean	Simon the Cananaean	Judas, son of James	Judas, son of James
Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	

*If Matthew, Mark and Luke had copied from one another, their lists would have matched.*

This lesson available for printing at: <http://goo.gl/rpzUY>

## Bible Personality Series -

# Peter, the Leader

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## I. Peter's Names

A) **Reading: John 1:34-42**

B) His parents had named him Simon. **John 1:42**  
There were at least seven Simons in the Gospel accounts.

1. Jesus had a half-brother named Simon. **Matthew 13:55**
2. Another of the 12 apostles was named Simon the Zealot. **Mark 3:18**
3. There were also Simon the leper, Simon the Pharisee, Simon the Cyrene and more.

C) Jesus said that Simon's name would become Peter. **John 1:42**

1. Peter means rock. (Rocky)
2. Jesus may have changed his name to give him a goal to work towards.

John McArthur writes: Tommy Lasorda, former manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, tells the story of a young, skinny pitcher who was new in the Dodgers' minor league system. The youngster was somewhat timid but had an extraordinarily powerful and accurate arm. Lasorda was convinced that the young pitcher had the potential to be one of the greatest ever. But, Lasorda says, the young man needed to be more fierce and competitive. He needed to lose his timidity. So Lasorda gave him a nickname that was exactly the opposite of his personality: "Bulldog." Over the years, that is exactly what Orel Hershiser became – one of the most tenacious competitors who ever took the mound in the major leagues. The nickname became a perpetual reminder of what he ought to be, and before long, it shaped his whole attitude.

3. The new name better describes, but did not always replace, the name Simon. The name "Peter" helped shape his attitudes.

4. The name-change began in **Matthew 16:16-18**.
5. Jesus also used “Simon” to remind him of his pre-Peter days. **Luke 22:31; Mark 14:37-38; John 21:15-17**.

D) The Aramaic version of Peter was Cephas. **1 Corinthians 1:12**. “**Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, “I am of Paul,” and “I of Apollos,” and “I of Cephas,” and “I of Christ.”**”

## II. Peter’s Place in Life.

- A) Had been a fisherman most of his life. **John 1:44** speaks of where he lived before moving to Capernaum.
- B) Had a wife. **Mark 1:30**.  
(Novel: *The Fisherman’s Wife*. Dianne G. Sagon.\*\*\*)
- C) Had a home in Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee.
  1. The home may have once belonged to his wife’s parents because Peter’s mother-in-law lived there.
  2. Peter’s brother Andrew lived there, too. **Mark 1:29**.
  3. Much of Jesus’ ministry centered about that house. **Mark passages. 1:29, 33, 35, 2:1,2,4,3:20**
  4. The home is a tourist attraction and is controlled by the Catholic Church. They have built a viewing area.
- D) Peter may have been older than the other 11 men.

## III. Peter’s Relationship with the Lord.

- A) **Reading: Matthew 16:13-23**.
- B) Peter identified Jesus correctly. **16:16**
- C) Peter rebuked Jesus. **16:22**.
- D) Jesus rebuked him harshly. **16:23**.
  1. Jesus was normally very patient with his men.
  2. Peter had struck at the purpose of Jesus coming to earth.

## IV. Peter’s Relationship with the Other Eleven.

- A) His name first in each of the four lists of Apostles. **Matthew 10:2**, where Peter is spoken of as “first.” **Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;**
- B) He often serves as the spokesman for the others.
- C) Peter is mentioned in the Gospel more than any other name except Jesus.
- D) Jesus is training Peter to lead the 12.

## V. Lessons from Peter and the Temple Tax.

- A) **Reading: Matthew 17:24-27**
- B) These were Jewish tax collectors collecting for temple upkeep.
- C) As a developing leader, Peter needed to learn submission to others.
- D) Jesus showed why he didn’t owe the tax. **Vs. 25**.
- E) Then he explained why he would pay it. **Vs. 27**.
  1. This was a voluntary submission.
  2. It taught Peter by example and Peter learned. **1 Peter 2:13-18**
- F) Jesus then provided the tax money by a miracle. **Vs. 27**

## VI. Peter at the Foot Washing

- A) **Reading: John 13:1- 17**
- B) John says the love of Jesus included footwashing. **Vs. 1**.
- C) Foot-washing was a common courtesy for a host because their guest’s feet were dusty from the roads. The host had servants care for the task. Here, Jesus became that servant.
- D) Our Lord’s leadership style was that of servant-leadership. **Mark 9:35, Acts 3:26, 4:27**.
- E) Peter learned this lesson of humility. **1 Peter 5:5-6**.