Shields of the Apostles

1. St. John
2. St. Andrew
3. St. Philip
4. St. Jude
5. St. Bartholomew
6. St. Simon
7. St. Matthew
8. St. Thomas
9. St. James the Greater
10. St. James the Less
11. St. Matthias
12. Judas Iscariot
New Covenant Disciples Poster #5 Jesus Teaching Sessions 4, 8, 9
Virginia Theological Seminary Chapel

Photo by Mark Borchelt
Conflict Styles

How do you handle conflict? Select the animal that best describes your conflict style.

**The Turtle:**
- Avoids Conflict
- Withdraws into their shells
- Believes conflict resolution hopeless
- Avoids people and issues involved in conflict
- Feels helpless

**The Shark:**
- Tries to overpower opponents
- Doesn’t care if others like them
- Wants to be the winner
- Seeks to achieve own goals at all costs
- One person a winner, one a loser
- Losing makes them feel weak

**The Owl:**
- Highly values goals and relationships
- Seeks solutions through discussion
- Not satisfied until goals of both are met
- Conflicts are problems to be solved
- Wants tensions and negative feelings resolved

**The Fox:**
- Always seeks compromise
- Looks for middle ground
- Willing to sacrifice to find agreement
- Seeks solution where both will gain
- Looks for common good

**The Teddy Bear:**
- Feels relationship most important
- Wants harmony
- Will smooth things over to keep relationship
- Wants to be liked by others
- Conflict cannot be discussed

I messages: “You made me feel________________ when you insisted on________________.”
“I feel________________ when you insist on________________.”

Turn statements around; instead of making accusations, make observations. What are other “I” messages you could say to avoid conflict?


New Covenant Disciples Poster #6A Conflict Styles

Session 5
Characteristics of Disciples

Matching Game

Religious people, even those Christ called to spread his mission in the world, were human like us. If God used imperfect people like the twelve disciples, God can use us. Match the numbered descriptions on the left with the scripture citation on the right by drawing a line between the correct answers.

1. Laypeople called to be fishers of believers
   A. Matthew 10:7

2. Tax collectors considered dishonest
   B. Mark 10:35-37

3. Called to heal

4. Two who sought favoritism
   D. John 20:24-25

5. One who belonged to an extreme group; a Zealot
   E. Mark 1:16-20

6. Called to preach
   F. Luke 6:15

7. One who doubted
   G. Matthew 10:1

8. Betrayal of Jesus
   H. Mark 2:13-17

Answers: 1-E; 2-H; 3-G; 4-B; 5-F; 6-A; 7-D; 8-C

New Covenant Disciples Poster #6B Characteristics of Disciples

Session 2
The Twelve Apostles  
(Plus One)

Andrew – The patron of Russia and Scotland, he was a Galilean fisherman, the brother of Simon Peter, and sometimes in Jesus’ inner circle. Apparently an earlier disciple of John the Baptist during his Jordan River ministry, Andrew introduced his brother to Jesus. Andrew found the boy with the loaves and fishes for feeding the 5,000. Tradition says Andrew was a missionary who was crucified in Achaia on an “X” shaped cross, or “St. Andrew’s” cross. His symbol is the three flaying knives.

Bartholomew, also known as Nathaniel, was introduced to Jesus by Philip. He was a resident of Cana, a rival, neighboring town of Nazareth. Legend tells that Armenia and India were the areas of his missionary work. He is said to have been skinned alive by a Phrygian ruler. His symbol is the three flaying knives.

James, Son of Zebedee – A Galilean fisherman, and brother to John, he and his brother were nicknamed “the sons of thunder” by Jesus. He was the first apostle to die for his Christian faith at Herod’s order, the only biblically verified death of an apostle, except for Judas. Legend mentions his missionary travels to Spain, thus he is the patron of Spain and of pilgrims. Scallop shells are his symbol.

James, Son of Alphaeus – Present in the upper room at Pentecost, he is linked to Thaddeus who may have been his brother. Legend designates him as bishop of the church in Jerusalem. Tradition says that James was cast down from a pinnacle of the Jerusalem temple, stoned and sawn asunder by the Jews. A saw is his symbol.

John – Another Galilean fisherman, brother to James, he was one of the inner circle and was with Jesus during Gethsemane. John was possibly the “Beloved Apostle” referred to in John, and spoken of by Jesus as he died at Calvary. Legend tells of two stories to explain his symbol of a chalice with a serpent. One is an attempted assassination by drinking poisoned wine from a chalice in Ephesus. Another suggests that it symbolizes Jesus prior to his arrest and crucifixion.

Jude (or Thaddaeus) – He is perhaps the writer of the Letter to Jude. Legend says he traveled by boat to many ports as a missionary. The sailing vessel represents his journeys.

Matthew (or Levi) – Scribes criticized Jesus for associating with Matthew, a tax collector. By tradition, he is said to be the author of the first gospel. Legend records him as a Christian martyr by crucifixion or beheading. The three money bags refer to his occupation before he was a disciple.

Matthias – Chosen by lot to replace Judas iscariot, he served as a missionary in Judea, where he is said to have been stoned and beheaded. His symbol is a battle axe with an open book with the inscription super Mathiam.

Philip – An early disciple of John the Baptist, a resident of Bethsaida, he was often linked with Andrew. He brought Greeks to meet Jesus during the final Passover and introduced Bartholomew to him. Tradition says he died by crucifixion, hence roundels representing the five loaves of bread around the cross.

Simon Peter – A Galilean fisherman, Jesus gave him the name Peter, meaning “rock.” He was the first apostle to identify Jesus as Messiah. He defended Jesus at the time of his arrest, only to later deny him. After Pentecost, he assumed strong leadership in the Church, preaching and healing in Jesus’ name. Tradition says he was the first bishop of the Roman church. Legend says he felt unworthy to die as Christ had; he requested that his cross be inverted so that he might look heavenward as he was crucified. His symbol combines the inverted cross and the “keys to the Kingdom.”

Simon the Zealot – A member of the Zealot party who wanted to see the Roman Empire overthrown, he was probably from Galilee, and linked by Luke to Judas. Legend says the two preached and died in Persia. Simon’s symbol is a fish lying on a book, suggesting he was a fisher of people.

Thomas – He often asked Jesus questions and had to see Jesus’ wounds before he could believe the resurrection. Legend says he was a missionary to east India where he is said to have built a church with his own hands, making him the patron saint of builders. The spear refers to the instrument of his martyrdom, while the carpenter’s square is his vocational symbol.

Judas Iscariot – The traitorous apostle, he was present at the Last Supper, and may have been a Zealot. He betrayed Jesus with a kiss and received thirty pieces of silver for his part in the plot. Matthew says he committed suicide; Acts says he fell over and died. His symbol is the pieces of silver.
The goal for this game is to get as many names of people who can do the "gifts" in each square as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Good at math</th>
<th>Plays an instrument</th>
<th>Likes to organize things</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writes stories or poetry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes to cook</td>
<td>Likes to build</td>
<td>A good listener</td>
<td>Likes to sing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes to spend time alone</td>
<td>Likes to organize people</td>
<td>Likes to walk in the garden</td>
<td>Likes to work with cars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes to act</td>
<td>Good at science</td>
<td>Can draw</td>
<td>Good at sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes to sew</td>
<td>Likes to spend time with children</td>
<td>Likes to read</td>
<td>Other gifts:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>