

The Top Twelve **Luke 6:12-16**

Intro: Typical of the way society in general and our culture in particular look at things is you know you're important if you make it to somebody's "list." We have the Fortune 500® for businesses, etc. We have the Top 40 in the contemporary music scene. (Although, as Vance Havner has said, "If these songs represent the top 40, I'd hate to hear the bottom 40!") In sports the top ten of whatever category of production is deemed important, i.e., batting averages. Then just recently I saw that there was a list for the 50 most influential churches in America. My main concern about the latter is how close any of our churches may come to Christ's list of seven in Revelation 2 and 3. And then there are the "top twelve" as in disciples! Let's take a look...

I. The main thing is prayer! (Luke 6:12)

- A. The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing!
- B. Then, when all else fails (!), keep the main thing some more!

II. The difference between "called," "chosen," and being named. (Luke 6:13)

- A. Called:
- B. Chosen:
- C. Named (disciples/apostles):

III. What's in a name?

Simon/Peter
Andrew
James
John
Philip
Bartholomew
Matthew
Thomas
James/Alphaeus
Simon/Zealot
Judas/of James
Judas/Iscaiot