

5.14

People in the Gospels

This chart is organized in a manner similar to “flash cards,” indicating which Gospel character is to be identified with a particular action or trait. Note that some characters have more than one identifier.

the brother of Peter, one of Jesus’s twelve disciples	Andrew
a female prophet in the Jerusalem temple who prophesies over the baby Jesus	Anna
the father-in-law of Caiaphas (the high priest) who questions Jesus at his trial	Annas
a criminal released by Pilate after a crowd calls for Pilate to set him free instead of Jesus	Barrabas
a blind beggar healed by Jesus who then follows him on the way	Bartimaeus
the ruler of demons (another name for Satan in the New Testament)	Beelzebul
one of the two people to whom the risen Jesus appears on the road to Emmaus	Cleopas
the mother of John the Baptist who blesses Mary when she comes to visit	Elizabeth
the angel who tells Mary she will give birth to Jesus	Gabriel
kills babies in Bethlehem when the magi tell him the Messiah has been born there	Herod (actually Herod the Great)
arrests and then beheads John the Baptist at the request of his stepdaughter, Salome	Herod (actually Herod Antipas)
called a “fox” by Jesus	Herod (actually Herod Antipas)
questions Jesus briefly after he is arrested because he wants to see a miracle	Herod (actually Herod Antipas)
wife of Herod Antipas who	Herodias

prompts her daughter to ask for “the head of John the Baptist”	
the ruler of a synagogue, whose daughter Jesus raises from the dead	Jairus
the sons of Zebedee, two brothers who were disciples of Jesus	James and John
two disciples of Jesus, known as “the sons of thunder”	James and John
the two disciples of Jesus who ask if they can sit at his left and right in glory	James and John
the two disciples of Jesus who consider calling fire down from heaven to consume a Samaritan village	James and John
the wife of Herod’s steward who accompanies Jesus and provides for him and his disciples out of her resources	Joanna
the person who baptizes Jesus	John the Baptist
according to Jesus, his coming fulfills the prophecy of the return of Elijah	John the Baptist
while in prison, sends Jesus a question, “Are you the one who was to come?”	John the Baptist
beheaded by Herod at the request of Herodias’s daughter	John the Baptist
a rich man who provides a new tomb for Jesus’s body following his crucifixion	Joseph of Arimathea
a descendant of David who becomes Jesus’s father, adopting him into the Davidic line	Joseph
criticizes Mary of Bethany for anointing Jesus with expensive ointment	Judas Iscariot
the treasurer for the disciples—also said to be a thief who stole from the common purse	Judas Iscariot
betrays Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, then regrets the betrayal, returns the money, and hangs himself	Judas Iscariot
tax-collector called to follow Jesus, also known as “Matthew”	Levi
speaks the poetic words of “the	Mary the mother of Jesus

Magnificat" when she visits Elizabeth	
entrusted to the care of the "beloved disciple" by Jesus on the cross	Mary the mother of Jesus
the sister of Martha, who sits at Jesus's feet listening to his words	Mary of Bethany
the two sisters of Lazarus, whom Jesus raises from the dead	Mary and Martha
a woman who anoints Jesus and is criticized for wasting the ointment	Mary of Bethany
along with Joanna and Susanna, travels with Jesus and provides for Jesus and the disciples out of her resources	Mary Magdalene
encounters the risen Jesus in the garden and mistakes him for the gardener	Mary Magdalene
when told about Jesus by Philip, asks, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"	Nathanael
Jewish leader who comes to Jesus at night and hears that no one can see the kingdom of God without being "born again"	Nicodemus
Jewish leader who joins Joseph of Arimathea in placing Jesus's body in a tomb	Nicodemus
one of Jesus's twelve disciples, also known as Simon and Cephas	Peter
first disciple to identify Jesus as the Messiah, in Caesarea Philippi	Peter
identified as the rock on which Jesus says he will build his church	Peter
the disciple to whom Jesus gives "the keys to the kingdom of heaven"	Peter
the disciple to whom Jesus says, "Get behind me Satan" when he objects to an announcement of the cross	Peter
has partial success walking on water at Jesus's bidding	Peter
denies Jesus three times when he faces possible arrest for being a disciple	Peter

the disciple who Jesus asks three times, "Do you love me?," telling him, "Feed my sheep"	Peter
the three disciples taken up a mountain by Jesus for the Transfiguration	Peter, James, and John
the three disciples taken aside to pray with Jesus in Gethsemane (where they fall asleep)	Peter, James, and John
the disciple who brings his friend Nathanael to Jesus, inviting him to "Come and see"	Philip
the disciple who acts as an intermediary for some Greeks who want to meet Jesus	Philip
Roman governor who offers the crowd a choice of releasing Jesus or Barabbas	Pilate
washes his hands in front of the crowd, insisting, "I am free of this man's blood"	Pilate
in discussion with Jesus, asks "What is truth?"	Pilate
a priest in the Jerusalem temple who prophesies over Mary and over the baby Jesus	Simeon
speaks words of the "Nunc Dimittis" when he sees the Christ child	Simeon
carries the cross of Jesus to Golgotha	Simon of Cyrene
a man who hosts Jesus at his home in Bethany, where Jesus is anointed by a woman	Simon the leper
hosts a dinner at which Jesus's feet are washed with the tears of a prostitute	Simon the Pharisee
three women who are said to have accompanied Jesus and provided for him and his disciples out of their resources	Joanna, Susanna, and Mary Magdalene
otherwise unknown person to whom the Gospel of Luke and book of Acts are addressed	Theophilus
disciple who refuses to believe Jesus is risen until he sees for himself	Thomas
rich tax collector who climbs a sycamore tree to see Jesus	Zacchaeus

the father of John the Baptist who speaks the words of the "Benedictus" when John is born	Zechariah
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