



Options A, B, and C (None of the above)

One of the most common mistakes we make when trying to hear from God is giving Him only two options. Every time we do that we are bound to miss or limit Him.

If we are asking a question we must ask, "Lord is it A, B, or C (None of the above). We need to put all the options on the table.

A. The Twelve

Here we see the disciples make that mistake:

Acts 1:21-26 "Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, [22] Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. [23] And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. [24] And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, [25] That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. [26] And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles."

- a) Casting lots was an OT practice used to resolve issues and find God's will and direction. (Proverbs 16:33; 18:18)
- b) The disciples did not give God a third option or choice. We limit God when we don't give Him a third option. Something like "*neither of them*" OR "*none of the above*" **should be on the table whenever we ask questions with options.** Giving God a third option is critical in getting great leading from the Lord.

c) Options A, B, and C:

- A. Joseph
- B. Matthias
- C. None of the above.

- d) Option C was missing. Had they had this option, the Lord would have probably said, none of these guys was the perfect replacement for Judas.
- e) The twelve went ahead and cast lots choosing Matthias as a replacement for Judas, but the true replacement of Judas was Paul. We never hear of Matthias ever again.
- f) This is the last time a lot was cast and was before the coming of the Holy Spirit. Now that He has come, we do not, nor should we use lots anymore, but depend on the ministry of the Holy Spirit for direction to the believer.
- g) 1 Corinthians 15:8-10 "And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. [9] For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. [10] But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."
 - i) According to these verses, it seems clear that Paul considered himself one of the 12 which could only translate to mean Paul was God's selection to replace Judas, while Matthias was the disciple's replacement—not God's.

B. Peter

Matthew 14:26-29 "And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. [27] But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. [28] And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. [29] And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus."

- a) It was great to see Peter walk on water, but I don't believe it was God's perfect will for him to do so. What was walking on water going towards Jesus supposed to achieve?

- b) I believe that the reason the Lord let Peter come to Him walking on water was because **of the way Peter asked the question**. Peter wanted to walk on water. Jesus was coming to them. All he needed to know was that it was the Lord. That should have been enough for him, but he wanted more.
- c) He said, "Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water."
- i) The Lord had made it clear that it was Him.
 - ii) What was the Lord supposed to answer? He had only two options:
 - It's me, come (truth).
 - It's not me, don't come (lie).

The only answer Jesus could give because of the way Peter asked the question was, **it's me, come** even though it was not God's will for Peter to go to Him walking on water.

We have to be very careful the way we ask questions and remember to give God options: A, B, and C (none of the above). The way we ask can hinder our results and answers.