

THE Training OF THE Twelve



A.B. Bruce

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The Training of the Twelve - A.B. Bruce.

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συν τῷ Ἰησοῦ ἦσαν

The Greek phrase (above) was used on the back side of the title page of A.B. Bruce's *The Training of the Twelve*, probably from the first edition published in 1871. In my fourth edition copy (1888), it stands alone against the white background of the page, offering a soliloquy of unparalleled importance that reveals the key to Jesus' ministry in the lives of the twelve Apostles.

Dr. Bruce excerpted the phrase from Acts 4:13 in the Greek New Testament: "Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as *having been with Jesus*." Translated literally, it means "they were with Jesus." The NIV reads, "These men had been with Jesus." In four brief words, the Scriptures capture the essential means by which Jesus imparted His life and teachings to these men. He was simply with them. The disciples learned by listening to His words and by studying His life. Jesus imprinted His life upon these men by spending time with them.