

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, April 12, 2015

Passage: Mark 3:7-19

Memory Passage: Mark 3:14-15

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 3:7-19.** What has been the significance of “the sea” thus far in Mark’s gospel?

(b) On a map in your Bible find the 7 geographical locations mentioned in vs. 7-8 (you can also find one here:

http://25.media.tumblr.com/923ebb4be187ea9fca25872c8af4775c/tumblr_mfd0v2tdt61qcff0bo1_500.png). What do you learn about the “great crowd” coming to Jesus and Jesus’ popularity from your examination of the map?

(c) Why was this “great crowd” coming to Jesus, in what danger does He find Himself, and what is His solution?

(d) What similarities and differences do you find between (1) the unclean spirits’ testimony in 1:24 and 3:11 and (2) Jesus’ response to them?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 3:7-19.** Verses 7-12 form a summary statement of Jesus’ ministry thus far. Describe His popularity with the crowds (i.e. how popular was He, why was He popular, how does His popularity differ from the Pharisees’ response, etc.).

(b) What is Jesus’ primary mission (cf. 1:14, 21-22, 38-39. 2:2, 13) and how does this compare with the primary desires of the crowds? How does Jesus respond to the crowds even though their desires are different from His priorities?

(c) How can we learn from Jesus’ response to the crowds, and in what specific ways can we expand and strengthen our ministry when our “crowds” are not as interested in our preaching as our service to them?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 3:7-19.** Why do you think Jesus chose the mountain for His next activity?

(b) Why did Jesus call only some of the people to come to Him on the mountain, and what is the significance of “twelve?”

(c) For what three purposes did Jesus appoint the twelve?

(d) Meditate for a moment on the first purpose: so that they might be with Him. What all does this entail (e.g. why must they be with Him before He sends them out, what do they gain by being with Him compared to not being with Him, is being with Him an easy or hard task, etc.)?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 3:7-19.** How do the three purposes for which Jesus called the twelve compare with Jesus’ ministry purposes?

(b) If you were one of the twelve, about which of these purposes would you be most excited and why? Least excited & why?

(c) In what ways might the disciples (and you) carry out these purposes in a sinful manner, and how does their being with Jesus help avoid these types of activities and motives?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 3:7-19.** Consider the disciples about whom we know a bit of information from the Scriptures (Peter, James, John, Andrew, Phillip, Thomas, Judas Iscariot). Consider what you know of these men as revealed in the Scripture and answer these questions: (1) Which of these men are you most like and why? (2) How do their lives reveal that they had “been with Jesus?” (3) How do their failures thwart God’s plan? (4) In what ways do they serve as examples that encourage you?

(b) Consider the disciples about whom we know little or nothing except that they were disciples (Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddeus, and Simon the Cananaean/Zealot) and answer these questions: (1) In what ways are you encouraged by their lack of notoriety? (2) What does the lack of Biblical information about them tell you about the nature of Jesus’ call? (3) In what ways do they serve as examples that encourage you?

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Being with Jesus