

## Mark 3:7-19 – Truly Following Jesus

Michael Silva / February 23, 2020

### Announcements:

- Communion today
- Prayer Time Tonight.

### Introduction:

- We can follow Jesus because of what He has done for us.
- Through His death we have access to Life!



### Transition:

1. Last week: [Scott Taught](#).

### Let's begin by reading: [Mark 3:7-22 \(NKJV\)](#);

1. I've **summarized** our passage today [Truly Following Jesus](#).

**Mark 3:7-12** <sup>7</sup> But Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea. And a great multitude from Galilee followed Him, and from Judea <sup>8</sup> and Jerusalem and Idumea and beyond the Jordan; and those from Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they heard how many things He was doing, came to Him. <sup>9</sup> So He told His disciples that a small boat should be kept ready for Him because of the multitude, lest they should crush Him. <sup>10</sup> For He healed many, so that as many as had afflictions pressed about Him to touch Him. <sup>11</sup> And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out, saying, "You are the Son of God." <sup>12</sup> But He sternly warned them that they should not make Him known.

1. [Jesus withdrew](#) – He knew when He needed to get away and He knew it was important to get away.
  - a) It wasn't the official Jewish Sabbath Day, but it was an intentional act of removing Himself from His activities.
  - b) God gave us the sabbath as a gift, it is intended to be a delight and not a duty.
    - i) He is inviting us to rest because He knows our bodies, minds, and emotions need that rest.
    - ii) Pastor Peter Scazzero – Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, 4 Steps to a Meaningful Sabbath
      - (1) **Stop** – On the Sabbath we embrace our limits. God is on the throne, managing quite well in

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.emotionallyhealthy.org/4-steps-to-a-meaningful-sabbath/?v=7516fd43adaa>

## Truly Following Jesus

ruling the universe without our help.

- (2) **Rest** – Once we stop, we accept God’s invitation to rest. God rested after his work of creation. Every seventh day, we are to do the same (Genesis 2:1 – 4). We engage in activities that restore and replenish us — from napping, hiking, reading, and eating good food to enjoying hobbies and playing sports.
- (3) **Delight** – After finishing his work in creation, God pronounced it “very good” (Genesis 1:31). This was not an anemic afterthought — Oh, well, it’s nice to be done with that — but a joyful recognition and celebration of accomplishment. As part of observing Sabbath, God invites us to join in the celebration, to enjoy and delight in his creation and all the gifts he offers us in it. These innumerable gifts come to us in many forms, including people, places, and things.
- (4) **Contemplate** – Pondering the love of God is the central focus of our Sabbaths. What makes a Sabbath a biblical Sabbath is that it is “holy to the Lord.” We are not taking time off from God; we are drawing closer to him. Sabbath is an invitation to see the invisible in the visible — to recognize the hidden ways God’s goodness is at work in our lives. It does not mean we necessarily spend the entire day in prayer or studying Scripture, though those activities may be part of a Sabbath day. Instead, contemplation means we are acutely focused on those aspects of God’s love that come to us through so many gifts from his hand. Scripture affirms that all creation declares his glory (see Psalm 19:1). On Sabbath, we intentionally look for his grandeur in everything from people, food, and art to babies, sports, hobbies, and music. In this sense, contemplation is an extension of delight — we are intentional about looking for the evidence of God’s love in all of the things he has given us to enjoy.

2. Multitudes of people were coming from near and far.

- a) Show MAP.
- b) Idumea was the region south of Judea/Jerusalem. It contained a mixed-race people – Jews who had intermarried with Gentiles.
- c) Beyond the Jordan also a mixed-race region.
- d) Tyre and Sidon were predominantly Gentile cities.

3. Jesus had come to preach, but also worked miracles.

- a) But the people had come because of the miracles.
- b) It’s possible to follow Jesus for the wrong reasons.
  - i) Are you following Him for what you can get?
    - (1) Or do you pray about what you can give?
  - ii) Do you pray for more, or pray about how to use what you have for His glory?

## Truly Following Jesus

4. Jesus silenced the unclean spirits. Why?

- a) Jesus didn't want them declaring who He was because He's given that responsibility to the church instead.
- b) Even by telling the truth, you can misrepresent Jesus.
  - i) We are all called to preach the gospel, but not all are called to teach.
  - ii) **James 3:1** <sup>1</sup> My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

**Mark 3:13-19** <sup>13</sup> And He went up on the mountain and called to *Him* those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. <sup>14</sup> Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, <sup>15</sup> and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: <sup>16</sup> Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; <sup>17</sup> James the *son* of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; <sup>18</sup> Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the *son* of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; <sup>19</sup> and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house.

1. Many disciples were with Jesus on the mountain, but Jesus appointed twelve.

- a) The choice of these 12 men was a condemnation of the religious leaders of that day. They were rejected when they were not selected by Jesus to follow Him.
  - i) It's because they loved their position more than they loved God.
- b) Notice what the 12 were called to...
  - i) **that they might be with Him**
    - (1) First of all, it's all about being with Jesus. Nothing else of spiritual or eternal significance can happen apart from Christ. We must first spend time with Him.
  - ii) **that He might send them out to preach**
    - (1) Like the Apostles, we have all been commissioned to preach the gospel and make disciples. Not all are called to teach, but we are all called to preach the gospel.
  - iii) **to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons**
    - (1) These were unique gifts given to the Apostles to validate their ministry in the establishing of the first century church.
    - (2) Not all will have those gifts today, we are given a variety of gifts for the works of ministry (Ephesians 4)

2. **John 15:16** <sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

## Truly Following Jesus

- a) You are chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
3. The disciples – called **Apostles**, *sent ones*.
- a) Simon, called Peter. Cephas. Fisherman. Impulsive. Was called Satan by Jesus. Denied the Lord.
- i) God can forgive our mistakes. Be bold in telling others about Jesus.
- b) James the son of Zebedee (Boanerges, Sons of Thunder). Fisherman. Wanted to call down fire on a village that didn't welcome Jesus. The first to be martyred.
- i) Don't be afraid to lose your life for His sake.
- c) John the brother of James (Boanerges, Sons of Thunder). Fisherman. The disciple of love. Lived a martyr's life, though he's the only Apostle not martyred, only because he was miraculously saved in a pot of boiling oil. Wrote the Gospel of John, the epistles of 1-3 John, and Revelation.
- i) Christ's Love should be evident in our lives.
- d) Andrew (brother of Simon), Fisherman. Brought people to Jesus, including Peter.
- i) Bring people to Jesus.
- e) Philip, fisherman. Questioning attitude – wondered how Jesus could feed 5,000 and asked to see God the Father.
- i) Bring your questions to God, don't move away from God because you have question. God uses our questions to teach us.
- f) Bartholomew, Nathanael of Cana. Unknown vocation. Questioned, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Nathanael would go on to say, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"
- i) Test the spirits, don't just accept anything that kind of sounds spiritual.
  - ii) **1 John 4:1** <sup>1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- g) Matthew, Levi. Tax Collector – Outcast.
- i) God wants outcasts and those with strong administrative gifts.
- h) Thomas, the twin. Doubted the resurrection. After seeing Jesus Thomas declared, "My Lord and my God!"
- i) Jesus was gentle with Thomas. Jesus would go on to say, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."
- i) James the son of Alphaeus. Unknown vocation.
- j) Thaddaeus, Judas son of James, not Iscariot. Unknown vocation. Asked Jesus why He wasn't revealing Himself fully to the world (John 14:22).

## Truly Following Jesus

- i) Patience in God's timing.
  - k) Simon the Cananite, the zealot. Militant. Would have been an enemy of Levi/Matthew.
    - i) Love your brother.
  - l) Judah Iscariot, Unknown vocation. Treasurer of the group. Greedy. Betrayed Jesus. Hung himself. He was replaced by Matthias in Acts 1:15-26.
    - i) It's not enough to know who Jesus is, you must follow Him as your true Lord and Savior.
4. We are many members making up one body.
- a) **1 Corinthians 12:12–14** <sup>12</sup> For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. <sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> For in fact the body is not one member but many.
  - b) If you feel different that's good because God clearly likes a variety and diversity in those He uses.

### Conclusion: What's the big take away from this passage?

1. We are called to be true followers of Christ who recognize Him as both Savior and Lord.
  - a) Let's not just follow Jesus for what He can do for us or for what we can get from Him.
  - b) Let's be with Him and preach about Him and use our gifts for Him and His glory!

### Communion Today

---

<sup>i</sup> All scripture references, unless otherwise noted, are taken from The New King James Version. (1982). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.