

Title: Called to Be with Him

Passage: Mark 3:6-19

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The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him. Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach and have authority to cast out demons. He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Observations

Mark 3:6

The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

destroy

- "destroy" = Rev 9:11 = same word to describe the enemy

Revelation 9:11

They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon.

- early in Jesus ministry, the religious leaders hated Jesus.
- Inspired by the enemy himself, they sought to destroy Jesus.
- They were religious who honored God only with their lips but their hearts were far from them.

Herodians

- those who supported Herod, one of the most evil leaders

Began conspiring with

- Pharisees and Herodians, who were normally enemies, worked together to kill Jesus.
- The Gospel is both an enemy to the religious and irreligious
 - Religious = those who seek to obtain favor from God through their own effort. (Ex: older son in The Prodigal Son parable)
 - Irreligious = those who refuse their need for a savior. (Ex: younger son in The Prodigal son parable)

Mark 3:7a

And Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea,

Withdrew

- because it wasn't the right time for the final confrontation (not out of fear), which ultimately would occur around Passover in Jerusalem in God's time.

Mark 3:7b-8

and a great multitude followed from Galilee and from Judea, from both Jerusalem and Idumea, and from beyond the Jordan, and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that He was doing, they came to Him.

- Jesus popularity extended from everywhere regardless of ethnic and geographic barriers.

Mark 3:9

And He told His disciples to have a boat ready for Him because of the crowd, lest they crush Him

- crowd = crush = shows how large the presence was.

Mark 3:10

for He had healed many, so that all those who had afflictions and diseases pressed around Him in order to touch Him.

- why so many came = to be healed of afflictions and diseases (not to receive the Truth of salvation.)

John 6:26

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

Mark 3:11

And whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they fell down before Him and cried out, "You are the Son of God!". And He strictly ordered them not to make Him known.

- "Son of God" = title of Jesus' deity
 - But fact that was ignored by the crowd

Question: How does Jesus respond to attacks by religious/irreligious leaders?

- How do you respond to attacks from the enemy?

Mark 3:13

Then He went up to the mountain side and called to Himself those whom He desired, and they came to Him.

- mountain (symbolism of importance)
 - Jesus was tempted
 - Jesus' Great Sermon on the Mount
 - Jesus' Great Transfiguration
 - Jesus Olivet discourse
 - The Great Commission

Luke 6:12-13

In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles:

- Jesus prayed before appointing disciples

- “We do not pray for the work. Prayer is the work”

Psalms 127:1

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

- God allows needs in our lives to bring us to our knees in dependent relationship with Him.

To those whom He desired.

- Jesus took the initiative to select/choose.
- God’s sovereign mercy and purpose brings about His choice.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

and they came to Him

- Those whom God calls, they will answer

Mark 3:14-15

And He appointed twelve (whom He also named apostles) so that they might be with Him, and that He might send them out to preach, and to have authority to cast out demons

- Why appointed? Three reasons:
 - Might be with Him (person)
 - Might send them out to preach (purpose)
 - Have authority to cast out demons (power)

Application

Person

- a personal relationship with Jesus
 - Not a list of do’s and don’ts
- “I chose you to be with Me for all eternity”

John 14:3

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

Caution: distractions of doing rather than abiding

Revelation 2:4

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

- How respond?

Revelation 2:5

Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

- Remember from where have fallen
- Repent
- Return

Purpose

- a life purpose in Jesus
- As we are in a relationship with God, we are called to preach with our words and actions.
- You are writing a “gospel” story with your life - is it accurate and point to Jesus?

Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Power

- supernatural power from Jesus is yours to live the life He has called you.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

2 Peter 1:3

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence

- Resource: “Twelve Ordinary Men” (John MacArthur)