

## **Intentional Witness**

Mark 3:7-19

*Small Group Notes*

### **INTRODUCTION**

In Mark 3:7-19, Jesus appoints the twelve apostles to be with Him and to be sent out in His mission. Jesus calls the twelve and ascends up on a mountain, where He appoints them for a specific role as leaders in the formation of a "New Israel," the Church, the people of God. Jesus calling of the twelve reminds us of what it really means to be His disciple.

**Main Idea:** Jesus wants us to be intentionally with Him and to participate fully in His mission. This is what it means to be His disciple.

**Read:** Mark 3:7-19

#### **Opening Question:**

The Holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) provide us with an opportunity to more intentionally spend time with Jesus and focus on what really matters. The irony is that in the West, the Holidays are also a time where we face temptation to plug into other things, good things, that are unable to fully give us the hope, joy, peace, and love that Jesus does.

*Discuss as a group some of the temptations or distractions that we face during the Holidays that can keep us from being with Jesus? How can we help each other more intentionally be with Jesus this Holiday season?*

### **DIG AND DISCOVER**

Pastor Mark shared with us three ways that we can intentionally be with Jesus from our passage.

## **Respond to Jesus' call to repent, believe Him as Savior and Lord.**

The disciples are followers of Jesus (Mark 1:14-20). They have responded to Jesus invitation to repent and believe the good news of God's kingdom. They have left everything to follow Jesus. This is the first step that we must take to follow Jesus. This is what salvation is all about. We must accept Jesus as He is, Savior and Lord, and respond fully to His call.

*Invite anyone from the group who would like to share about when they experienced salvation and responded fully to Jesus call to repent and believe.*

### **Prioritize our first calling to be with Jesus and become like Him.**

Verse 14, Jesus appointed the twelve that they might "be with Him." This is the first calling of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus – to intentionally be with Jesus. We want to follow Him fully. We want to think like Him, act like Him, speak like Him, live like Him, etc.

*How are you learning to spend more time intentionally being with Jesus? Share as a group things that have helped develop your personal relationship with Jesus and encourage each other.*

### **Participate daily in the mission of Christ.**

Jesus sends His followers out to share the Gospel and have authority over the enemy.

Discuss the following quote from Dr. Grant Osborne:

"We join him [Jesus] as authoritative agents of God with his authority in our mission. The basis of that is John 20:22, where Jesus says "Receive the Holy Spirit." We do not have

to depend on our general giftedness to be “successful” in our work for him. The entire Godhead is endowing us with his presence and power in ministry so we can rejoice in our weakness because then all the glory will go to God.”

*Discuss how we can “lean into” and trust in the power Jesus gives us in Him to share the good news and overcome the attack of the enemy.*

**Why should we seek to be intentionally with Jesus daily?**

Read Romans 8:26-32 and John 15:1-11, then discuss how these two passages can encourage and motivate us to want to spend time with Jesus daily.

How can we resist the lies of the enemy, that discourage us and reclaim the truth that God is for us?

**CLOSING**

Is there any specific way that God is speaking to you through His word this week?

How can we pray for each other this week?

Is there a small step of obedience that you would like to take?