

FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

Crowds and Consecration | Mark 3:7-21

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At this point in Mark's Gospel, Jesus' ministry momentum is growing rapidly. The conflict with religious leaders has intensified (Mark 2:23–3:6), but so has public interest. Large crowds now follow Jesus from multiple regions — Galilee, Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and Tyre and Sidon (3:7–8). His influence is spreading far beyond local synagogue ministry.

This passage highlights a contrast between the crowds who gather because of Jesus' power and the disciples who are called into Jesus' mission. The crowds come to receive; the Twelve are called to belong and be sent. Mark shows that following Jesus involves more than fascination with miracles — it requires consecration and participation in His work.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Have you ever been part of a large crowd at an event (concert, game, conference, etc.)? What was the difference between being in the crowd versus being directly involved in the event?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Crowds (Mark 3:7–12)

1. What reasons do the crowds have for following Jesus?

2. What do these verses reveal about Jesus' growing reputation?

3. Why does Jesus silence the unclean spirits who identify Him?

4. What is the difference between being amazed by Jesus and following Jesus?

The Calling of the Twelve (Mark 3:13–19)

5. According to verse 14, what are the three purposes for which Jesus appoints the Twelve?

6. Why is “being with Him” listed before preaching and authority over demons?

7. What does this passage teach us about discipleship?

8. How does consecration differ from mere curiosity about Jesus?

Misunderstood by Family (Mark 3:20–21)

9. Why does Jesus’ family think He is “out of His mind”?

10. What does this moment reveal about the cost of Jesus’ mission?

11. How can obedience to God sometimes be misunderstood by others?

PERSONAL DEVOTION

Read Mark 3:13–15 slowly.

“And he appointed twelve... so that they might be with him...”

Ask yourself:

- Am I primarily part of the crowd, or am I pursuing closeness with Jesus?
- Is my faith centered on what Jesus can give me or on knowing Him?
- How is Jesus calling me to participate in His mission?

QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS
