

CALVARY CHAPEL COSTA MESA

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

“Called and Appointed” Mark 3:1-19

Pastor Brian Brodersen

MAIN IDEA

The northern, Galilean ministry of Jesus had gone full strength by Mark 3 with caravans of Jewish followers descending on Capernaum from all over Jewish Palestine. From as far South as modern-day Jordan, and from what would be Lebanon and Syria today, people were coming together to experience a Messianic event. Those flocking to Christ must have been aware of the similarities to what is called the Palestinian or “Land Covenant” of [Deuteronomy 29-30](#). This was not a military campaign that was bringing them together but a work of God’s grace. Jesus preached and healed as long as He could until the crowds were so large he had to retreat for threat of his life. Reminiscent of Jethro’s advice to Moses, it was now time for Jesus to share the work and begin to delegate the ministry. This moment begins the training and commissioning of the twelve disciples. The mentoring of these men would become the model for the later explosive work of the church. The Gospel of Christ is a beacon of hope for people of every creed and origin who will flock to be saved from the struggles and infirmities of life.

SCRIPTURAL INSIGHT

As a good shepherd, Jesus ministered to each person who came to Him in the crowds. What started in the synagogue with the man who had a withered hand, the crowds seeking Jesus’ touch now pushed Him to the edge of the lake. Mark records, “**As many as** had afflictions, he healed them.” This phrase was a semitic figure of speech which Matthew in his account states more plainly, “And great multitudes followed Him, **and He healed them all.**” (Mt 12:15)

READ & DISCUSS

Read out loud together Mark 3:1-19 and discuss below how to apply this passage.

KEY VERSE

Mark 3:13 And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him.

• *What insight, principle, or observation from this week’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain...*

• *Because we are all children of God, we can be together even in diversity. No one is more important than another, and God uses us all. How have you experienced these realities positively in Christian community? Have you been blessed by someone who is different, or witnessed God using someone seemingly unlikely?*

- Being a disciple is first and foremost being called into the Family of God. We are sons and daughters of God, and we have the privilege of calling Him Father. *When you think of “Father,” what thoughts, images, or feelings come up?*
- Politics seems to be driving the conversation regarding the migrant workers that are headed to the southern U.S. border. This country promises a life so much better than where they are coming from, but the immigration system and the economy don’t seem able to handle the flow. *How can Jesus’ church change the conversation? Why or why shouldn’t local churches play an active part in responding to this epidemic? What should be a Christian’s goal in conversations when this debate comes up?*

PRAYER & TESTIMONY

Start out your prayer time by saying the Lord’s Prayer together, savoring the opportunity to address God as Father.

SPIRITUAL APPLICATION & PRACTICE

Spend time this week talking to God about your experience of “Father.” Tell Him what you liked about your earthly Father, and what you didn’t. What do you still need from a Father? Maybe this will be a time of thankfulness and praise. Maybe it will be a time of lamenting and grief. Be open to whatever comes up and talk to God about it. Ask Him to teach you what it means for Him to be your Father, and you His child.

RESOURCES

The Good and Beautiful God: Falling in Love with the God Jesus Knows. James Bryan Smith. Downers Grove: IVP, 2009.

<https://www.amazon.com/Good-Beautiful-God-Falling-Apprentice/dp/0830835318/>

How do our ideas match up with what Jesus teaches us about God? *The Good and Beautiful God* reviews what the Bible reveals about the character of God, but then challenges us in our private walk and in our Christian communities to grow spiritually in the way Jesus would.



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Based on Brian Brodersen’s Sermon on October 21, 2018

Watch Again: <https://cccm.com/teaching/jesus-christ-son-of-god-savior/video/called-and-appointed/>