

Study Guide

Mark 3:7-35

I remember a day when my daughter was crying because she didn't have a prom date and all her girlfriends did. I knew that within two hours a nice young man was planning to ask her. (*But I couldn't spill the beans*).

When you know the great news of Jesus Christ, that He is not just a religious leader, but God in the flesh, it gives us so much joy. We are forgiven, saved and infused with purpose.

In our passage this weekend we find some great implications as various people wrestle with the identity of Jesus Christ. Once you know Him...it changes everything!

1. Read v. 7-12. Isn't it ironic that the demons know who Jesus is? Why would Jesus instruct them not to make Him known?
2. Read v. 13-21. Discuss the calling of the twelve, and the concept that this is not for our observation, but it offers a pattern for us.
 - a. called to multiply (see also 2 Tim. 2:2)
 - b. called to himself first ("so that they might be with him...")
 - c. called to die (Judas included- see also 2 Cor. 4:11)
 - d. called in power (v.15b-16a)
3. Read v. 20-30. Notice how Jesus' family claims He is a lunatic, and the scribes claim He is a liar. How does Jesus answer their claims? What is the unpardonable sin? Discuss the concept that you if you reject the claim that Jesus is Lord, it cuts off your umbilical cord.
4. Read v. 31-35. How can we order our lives to think about Jesus and the will of God first, even above the expectations of those closest to us?

Application

Share with each other what difference it has made in your life to know Jesus. How can you be more aware of the sacred calling that you have in your vocation?

Message Slides

Mark 3:7-35

A. Demons know (v.7-12)

⁷Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea ⁸and 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. ⁹And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, ¹⁰for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. ¹¹And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."¹²And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

B. Once I know (v.13-19)

¹³And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. ¹⁴And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵and have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder);¹⁸ Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot,¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

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- 1. Called to Multiply**
- 2. Called to Himself**
- 3. Called to Die**
- 4. Called in Power**

C. The Process of Knowing Him (v. 20-30)

Option #1- Lunatic

²⁰Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

Option #2- Liar

²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebub," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." ²³And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an

end. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

Option #3 Lord (God)

²⁸"Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" — ³⁰for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

D. The Result of Knowing Him (v.31-35)

³¹And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. ³²And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." ³³And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."