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Central Congregational Church
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”
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The Crowd and the Called

Mark 3:7-19

Series: Getting In on the Good News
The Gospel of Jesus Christ According to Mark

Central Passage

Mark 3:7–15 (ESV) — *7 Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea 8 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. 9 And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, 10 for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. 11 And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.” 12 And he strictly ordered them not to make him known. 13 And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. 14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach 15 and have authority to cast out demons.*

Central Thought: We get in on the Good News when we move from the crowd – seeking Jesus primarily for what we can get from him – to a responsive obedience to his authoritative call to join him on his creation restoring mission.

Appropriating or Following Jesus

Appropriate: take for one’s own use or purpose; commandeer.

- ❖ The crowd is focused on the miracles of Jesus, rather than his message and authority (vs. 7-10)

John 6:26 (The Message) — *26 Jesus answered, “You’ve come looking for me not because you saw God in my actions but because I fed you, filled your stomachs—and for free.*

Matthew 16:24–26 (ESV) — *24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?”*

- ❖ Demonic spirits recognize and are subject to the authority of Jesus. (vs. 11-12)

James 2:19 (ESV) — *19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!*

- ❖ Jesus calls us to submit to his loving authority and to join him on his mission.

1 Peter 2:4–5 (NIV) — *4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

Matthew 4:18–19 (ESV) — *18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*

Matthew 28:18–20 (ESV) — *18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*