Series: Goodnews
Passage: Mark 3:7-21
Sunday: May 3, 2026

Mark 3:7-21 (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. [16] He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); [17] James 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.
[20] Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. [21] And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

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1. Why was the crowd following Jesus? What did they hope to get from him? What are your motivations in coming to and spending time with Jesus?

2. Why doesn't Jesus want the unclean spirits to reveal his identity?

3. In verse 14, Jesus calls the disciples to be *with* him before he sends them <u>out</u>. Why is this significant?

4. For what specific purposes does Jesus call the twelve (verses 13-15)?

5. Every Jew knew that there were twelve tribes of Israel. What would Jesus then be saying about himself and his ministry by choosing twelve to have authority with him in his work?

6. In verses 20-21, why did Jesus family think he had lost his mind? How would you feel if your family rejected your ministry or decision to follow God?

7. What does Jesus commission us to do as his disciples today? What has resulted in your life because of that commission?