

Who Do You Say He Is? Mark 3:7–19

"Who do you say that I am?" This is the question that Jesus asked his disciple, Peter? And this is the question people asked throughout Jesus' earthly life. From his teachings to his healings and to the miracles he performed, people wrestled with the identity of Jesus. The Gospel of Mark was written to answer just this question—Who do you say Jesus is? And this question is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago when Jesus asked it of Peter? In our journey through the Gospel of Mark we will study the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus and ask ourselves, "Who do you say he is?"

Jesus' kingdom comes through disciples who are with him, sent by him, and becoming like him.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

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.

- As we jump back into the Gospel of Mark, let's recap. What has happened thus far in Mark 1–2? What have we learned about Jesus and his kingdom?
- In Mark 3:7–19 we begin to see a distinction between the crowds and the disciples. How would you describe a disciple? What does it mean to follow Jesus?
- People often wonder why Jesus chose the twelve disciples that he chose. We may
 never have an answer to that question, but Deuteronomy 6:7–8 does give us a
 glimpse into why God chooses who he chooses. In light of Deuteronomy 6, why do
 you think Jesus chose who he chose?
- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus chose you as one of his disciples?
- Obviously the disciples got to be with Jesus in person. Today, while we're not faceto-face with Jesus, we are still with Jesus. How are we with Jesus today? Think both theologically and practically.
- What does Mark 3:14–15 say is the point of Jesus appointing twelve disciples?
- Mark says the disciples were chosen so that Jesus "might send them out to preach and have authority to cast out demons." Simply put, disciples do what Jesus did.
 What are some of the things Jesus did in his ministry that we should be doing today?
- Why can we do the things that Jesus did? Who did Jesus have that we too have?

- What should be the natural result of being with Jesus and doing what he did?
- As you reflect on your own discipleship to Jesus, what needs to change so that you can better be with Jesus, do what he did, and become like him?
- How do you see the kingdom of God coming through your life?