

Our Relationship With Jesus: Fan, Follower, Or Friend

Mark 3:7-12

June 11-12, 2022

- Last Week: Mark 3:1-6 Religion & Religious Practices- A Matter Of Life & Death

4 Sermons On Our Relationship With Jesus-

- Fan, Follower, Or Friend (**Mark 3:7-12**)
- His Followers Are Invited On His Mission (**Mark 3:13-19**)
- His Followers Are Forgiven (**Mark 3:22-30**)
- His Followers Are Family (**Mark 3:20-21, 31-36**)

The Bible Has No Filler/Background Passages; All Scripture Is God-Breathed & Profitable

Our Relationship With Jesus

1. Our Relationship With Jesus Has Simple Joys (**Mark 3:7**)
2. Our Relationship With Jesus Has Complex Responsibilities (**Mark 3:9-10**)
3. Our Relationship With Jesus Has A Healthy Tension Between Work & Rest (Look at the Last Two Sabbaths-**Mark 2:23-27** & **Mark 3:1-6** & **Mark 3:7-8**)

3 Ways To Relate With Jesus

1. **Fan:** This “Great Crowd” Of Fans Was Coming From Every Direction: (**Mark 3:7-10**)

- Their Goal: Touch Him & Be Healed; Jesus Experienced This As Crushing Him!
- Jesus Was Literally Being Crushed By Their Needs
- Jesus Goes Down To The Sea & Is Almost Driven Into The Sea

... Not By His Foes But By His Fans

2. **Follower:** What Kind Of Follower Are You?

- ἀκολουθέω (akoloutheo) - to travel with, go after, to follow the behavior of someone, to obey (**Mark 3:7**)

3. **Friend:** (**Mark 3:9, 13-14**)

- Jesus Desires His Disciples To Be With Him & To Become His Friends (**John 15:15**)
- Jesus Is Able To Move You From Fan-ship to Friendship

The Obstacles & Opportunities To Your Relationship With Jesus

1. **An Obstacles & An Opportunity:** Truth- How Is Jesus Spoken About?

- **Obstacle:** Opponents That Speak Partial Truths In A Lying Way (**Mark 3:11**)
- **Opportunity:** Jesus Cares About How He Is Made Known & Desires To Use You (**Mark 3:11-12, 14**)

2. **An Obstacles & An Opportunity:** Love - How Does Jesus Meet Real Human Needs?

- **Obstacle:** Crushing Christ With Our Diseases & Distresses (**Mark 3:11**)
- **Opportunity:** Jesus Christ Has The Authority To Not Just Heal The Body But Restore The Soul (**Mark 3:10** ... 'For he had healed many.')

3. **An Obstacles & An Opportunity:** Mission - What Is The Result Of Jesus' Ministry?

- **Obstacle:** The Spectacle Of Ministry Can Be An Obstacle To Knowing Christ
- **Opportunity:** The Spectacle Of Ministry Is An Opportunity To Know Christ Rightly

How Is Your Relationship With Jesus? Have You Been Following Him Like A Fan Or Like A Friend?

You Can Follow Jesus As A Fan, But He Desires You To Follow Him As Lord & Know Him As A Friend.

Community Group Discussion Questions:

1. What does a healthy relationship with Jesus Christ look like? How would you describe it?
2. What does this passage reveal about how people were relating to Jesus Christ? What does this reveal about human nature?
3. What do you think the crowds were looking for in Jesus? What do you think He was looking for in them?
4. We all have a relationship with Jesus. Are you relating with Jesus as a fan? As a follower? As a friend? Or as a foe? How has your relationship with Jesus developed over the years?
5. What obstacles and opportunities are in your life right now to grow or distract from your relationship with Jesus?
6. What motivates you to grow in your relationship and friendship with Jesus?

Suggested Reading: *The Company We Keep: In Search Of Biblical Friendship*, by Jonathan Holmes

Key Words For Kids To Count: Follower, Followers, Follow