



# 3D Guide

**DO.**

**BOTTOM LINE:** When you choose to follow Jesus one day at a time, you will always be right in the middle of God's will.



1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



1. What can we learn from the diversity of backgrounds and personalities among the chosen apostles? How does this diversity contribute to the effectiveness of their ministry?
2. How does this passage challenge us to examine our own relationship with Jesus and our understanding of our calling and purpose as followers of Christ?
3. What is the difference between knowing, believing, and following Jesus?
4. Jesus talks about a house divided against itself being unable to stand. How does this statement apply not only to the accusations against Jesus but also to our personal lives, relationships, and communities?
5. What does it mean to do the will of God, as mentioned in this passage? How can we discern and align ourselves with God's will in our lives?



**DO.**

Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that were studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on [blueletterbible.com](http://blueletterbible.com) or with their app.



**Title: Gospel of Mark: Who is Jesus? Liar, Lunatic, or Lord**

**Scripture: Mark 3:13-35**

**Date: 07/02/2023**

**Bible Version: NLT**

**BOTTOM LINE: When you choose to follow Jesus one day at a time, you will always be right in the middle of God's will.**

### **Jesus Picks the Twelve**

***<sup>13</sup> Afterward Jesus went up on a mountain and called out the ones he wanted to go with him. And they came to him. <sup>14</sup> Then he appointed twelve of them and called them his apostles. They were to accompany him, and he would send them out to preach, <sup>15</sup> giving them authority to cast out demons. <sup>16</sup> These are the twelve he chose: Simon (whom he named Peter),<sup>17</sup> James and John (the sons of Zebedee, but Jesus nicknamed them "Sons of Thunder"),<sup>18</sup> Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon (the zealot), <sup>19</sup> Judas Iscariot (who later betrayed him).***

- Jesus initiated the calling; he drafted a team that would help spread His message, mission, and ministry to the ends of the earth.
- He chose unlikely men: a hated tax collector, hot-tempered and weak-faithed fishermen.
- He took ordinary people, men of different backgrounds, different personalities, different political ideologies, different abilities, and used them to change the world.

***But the Lord said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” – 1 Samuel 16:7***

- God sees differently than we see. People tend to see what is visible, but the LORD sees the heart.
- God doesn’t call the qualified. He qualifies the called.
- The choice of twelve men is highly symbolic. It corresponds to the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Jesus had three purposes in mind for the twelve Apostles.
  1. Train and teach them.
  2. Send them out to preach.
  3. Give them authority to heal, cast out demons and set people free.

***<sup>26</sup> Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world’s eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. <sup>27</sup> Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. <sup>28</sup> God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. <sup>29</sup> As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:26-29***

- No matter your strengths, and no matter your weaknesses, there’s a place for you on God’s team.
- Being a disciple is simply a matter of following Jesus with a willing and obedient heart.
- You’ve been chosen, you’ve been called, so respond and remain faithful, and trust the sovereignty of God.

## Who is Jesus? Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

*I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic —on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. — C.S. Lewis*

***20 One time Jesus entered a house, and the crowds began to gather again. Soon he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat. 21 When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.***

***22 But the teachers of religious law who had arrived from Jerusalem said, "He's possessed by Satan, the prince of demons. That's where he gets the power to cast out demons."***

- His family thinks he is a lunatic and the Pharisees say he is a liar.
- Jesus' family was concerned for his physical and mental state.
- The religious leaders wanted to discredit His power and always opposed his work.

***23 Jesus called them over and responded with an illustration. "How can Satan cast out Satan?" he asked. 24 "A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse. 25 Similarly, a family splintered by feuding will fall apart. 26 And if Satan is divided and fights against himself, how can he stand? He would never survive. 27 Let me illustrate this further. Who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger—someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house.***

- A house divided cannot stand. It is an absurd idea that Satan would drive out his own demons, a kingdom divided by a civil war will collapse.
- We need to recognize Satan's power but not fear him.
- Satan is the strongman, but Jesus is stronger.

***28 "I tell you the truth, all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven, 29 but anyone who blasphemes the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. This is a sin with eternal consequences." 30 He told them this because they were saying, "He's possessed by an evil spirit."***

- Jesus tells us in John 16 that when the Holy Spirit comes He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.
- When a person continually and deliberately rejects Jesus until their last breath on this earth, then they die resisting Jesus or blaspheming the work of the Spirit in their life.

*"The work of Christ on the cross can atone for terrible sins, but one must believe in Christ to receive forgiveness. To claim that the authority and power behind Jesus is actually the authority and power of the devil is to reject God's salvation in light of clear revelation. The one who rejects what the Holy Spirit makes clear, then, is guilty of an eternal sin." – Tony Evans*

## The True Family of Jesus

***31 Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him. They stood outside and sent word for him to come out and talk with them. 32 There was a crowd sitting around Jesus, and someone said, "Your mother and your brothers are outside asking for you." 33 Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" 34 Then he looked at those around him and said, "Look, these are my mother and brothers. 35 Anyone who does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."***

- Jesus is not disregarding his family; he is using this as a teaching lesson that the family of God is bigger than biological brothers and sisters.
- God's family isn't limited to certain people, it doesn't exclude anyone, it shows no partiality.
- The most important relationship in your life, the one that matters most, is the relationship you have with Jesus Christ.

*"Jesus prioritized his relationship with those who submit themselves to God's will. If you want to experience more of Jesus and have a deeper relationship with him, respond to God's agenda for your life." - Tony Evans*

- Jesus' true family are those who hear and obey his words.
- When you chose to follow Jesus, one day at a time, listening and obeying, you will always be right in the middle of God's will.