



Sermon Series: His Power
Sermon Title: DTR with Jesus
Date: 11/19/2023

DTR means - to define the relationship. It's intended to describe an awkward conversation you may have had at some point in your life when you've been with someone for a while and you're looking for clarification on whether you will be together or not.

Mark 3:7-12

Big Idea: Define your relationship with Jesus

1. WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD?

Mark 3:7-8

If we're going to define our relationship with Jesus, we need to work through what we've heard. All these people are coming to Jesus because of what they've heard **about** him. However, they are not coming to him because of what they've heard **from** him. They were increasingly less interested in shouting praises toward Jesus as these teachings grew. Instead, it was his actions and abilities that made him popular.

For many, Jesus was not the Messiah but rather the one who freed people from demonic possession (**Mark 1:28, 32, 40-45**). The news was out ***JESUS, THE HEALER AND ABLE TO CAST OUT DEMONS*** was out, and everyone wanted a piece of his power.

As we'll see as we work through this passage, Jesus is much more than His ability to heal and cast out demons; He is the savior of the world, and He is your King.

2. ARE YOU A DISCIPLE OR JUST PART OF THE CROWD?

Mark 3:9-10

We see another contrast between the crowd and Jesus' Disciples. Someone in the crowd comes with their own agenda and leaves with their own agenda. In other words, someone in the crowd is there for the show and their own needs; they're willing to trample over people to

touch Jesus. Not because they desire a relationship with him but because they desire to use him.

A disciple is much more than this. It is to be a learner - to recognize Jesus as your teacher. Being a disciple of Jesus is like being an apprentice of his. - to do as he says and do as he does.

Commit yourself to further the mission He set forth even if that means you need to sacrifice your own desires (**Mark 8:34**). To deny oneself means your life is no longer about you, but it's about Jesus and the good news he has for us to share with the world.

Taking up your cross means saying yes to God's will. You see, Cross-bearing brought to mind the sight of a condemned man who was forced to demonstrate his *submission* to Rome by carrying part of his cross through the city to his place of execution. The way you live your life will be a witness to your devotion to the redemptive power of Jesus.

3. WHAT KIND OF WITNESS ARE YOU?

Mark 3: 11-12

What's so incredible is that up to this point, these demons are actually the only ones who truly recognize, or are witnesses, of Jesus for who He is. To these demons, Jesus isn't just a healer. He isn't just the one who has the ability to cast them out. He is the Son of God. Jesus doesn't make note of their words because He is waiting for the right time for everyone to know who he truly is according to God's plan, and the second reason is that he doesn't want to be associated with their demonic witness.

What kind of witness are you? Are you one that Jesus would be proud to amplify, or are you one that Jesus would command to silence? Define the relationship in a way that accurately represents your status with Jesus. If you are a disciple of Jesus, then continue to commit to all that means. If you are a part of the crowd and you're just using Jesus, then define the relationship accordingly.

Reflect on **Philippians 2:9-11**.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **What is the difference between knowing who Jesus is as the demons do and having Him as your savior to Him?**
- **Is your relationship with Jesus built on what you've heard of Him, OR what you've heard from Him?**
- **Are you part of the crowd, looking to get a taste of Jesus' power without any commitment, or are you a disciple eager to learn? Explain**
- **In a few sentences - define your relationship with Jesus.**
- **Describe the areas of life where you deny yourself and take up your cross.**