

(John 15:16) - JESUS - *You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...*

(3:14a) - *Then He appointed twelve that they might be WITH HIM...*

I've got to spend time with Him. There is no substitute for a real, personal relationship with Jesus Christ!

III. JESUS' CALL WAS A CALL TO UNCONDITIONAL SERVICE (3:14b-15)

He called inadequate, deeply flawed, unqualified men, but men who would spend time with Him and then would be ready for His purposes...

(3:14b) - *...that He might send them out...*

To do three things...

- 1) *...to preach...*
- 2) (vs.15) - *...and to have power to heal sicknesses*
- 3) *...and to cast out demons:*

When I have spent time with the Lord He gives me three important things:

- 1) The PRIVILEGE of KNOWING HIS HEART
- 2) CLARITY to UNDERSTAND HIS WILL
(Proverbs 3:5-6; Romans 12:2)
- 3) STRENGTH to CARRY OUT HIS PLAN
(1 Samuel 12:24; 1 Cor. 15:58; Hebrews 6:10)

JESUS (John 12:26) - *Whoever serves me must follow me...*

Church - may we always LOOK UP before we REACH OUT!



SERMON SERIES: Looking Up! Reaching Out!

MESSAGE: Looking Up! Reaching Out!

TEXT: Mark 3:1-19 - (Key Text vs. 14)

DATE: January 15, 2017 (a.m.)

SPEAKER: Pastor Dean Haun

We begin 2017 with a new series of messages based on the banner beneath the baptistry.

“Looking Up! Reaching Out!”

This will be our Church theme for 2017!

It is when we truly WORSHIP the Lord that then and only are we ready to go to WORK for the Lord!

Mark 3:1-12 is a great illustration of the CONTRAST of what people thought of Jesus.

The Jewish Religious leaders hated Him and saw Him as a threat to their power base.

While, for the most part, the common Jewish people loved Him!

In vss. 1-6 Jesus is in the synagogue on the Sabbath at Capernaum.

A man with a withered hand is in attendance.

Verse 2 says the religious leaders were...

“...watching Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.”

There was and still is a common saying in Judaism among the Rabbis that their job was to *“build a fence around the Torah.”*

To build a fence around the TORAH and its 613 commandments meant they were declaring to be both its OWNER and it's GUARDIAN.

(Matthew 15:1-9)

Jesus healed the man with a withered hand AND it was on the Sabbath.

Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians

...against Him, how they might destroy Him.

Vss. 7-8 says that Jesus withdrew to the Sea but had great multitudes...

...from the west in Galilee where He was,

...and from the south from Judea and Jerusalem...

...and from the east from Idumea and beyond the Jordan River...

...and from the north from Tyre and Sidon...

...came to Him.

So much so that....vs. 9...

(3:9) - ...He told His disciples that a small boat should be kept ready for Him because of the multitude, lest they should crush Him.

(3:10-11) - For He healed many, so that as many as had afflictions pressed about Him to touch Him. And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out, saying, "You are the Son of God."

After the multitudes went away our text today says...

(3:13-15) - And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:

There are three principles within that passage about the call of God on our lives...

I. JESUS' CALL WAS A CALL TO UNQUALIFIED MEN (3:13-14a, 16-19)

(3:13-14a) - And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve...

Vss. 16-19 gives us the list of these men's names...

(16) - Simon, (Shimon) to whom He gave the name Peter (Cephas);

(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, Philip, Matthew, Thomas, Bartholomew (Nathaniel), James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite;

(19) and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

Jesus took these men, and with the exception of Judas, used them to set in motion the foundation of all of Christianity!

Jesus didn't choose super-heroes!

He chose inadequate, unqualified, deeply flawed men to serve Him

He can use you this year as well if you will submit to Him and follow Him!

II. JESUS' CALL WAS A CALL TO UNCEASING WORSHIP (3:13-14a)

Notice again what vs. 13 says...JESUS *called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve...*