

## The Calling and Commissioning King: Mark 3:13-19

### *Be Together*

Ask your children and answer the following questions. What does a King do? Who is the King of the Church or God's Kingdom?

### *Think Together*

#### Summary of Sermon

The big idea of this sermon was, "Trust King Jesus as the faithful and powerful bringer of God's Kingdom."

**To begin, witness the King's call and comers (13).** Mark tells us that Jesus ascended a mountain. Luke informs us that he went there and prayed all night ([Lk 6:12](#)). Mountains bear significance in Jesus ministry in Mark. The event here, his transfiguration, the sending of the twelve, the triumphal entry, the proclamation against Jerusalem, and the crucifixion would all take place on a mountain. What Jesus does here is like what happened to Israel around Mt. Sinai after the Exodus. A people of God's possession are going to be formed on the foundations laid here. He prayed because he was about to do something important.

Jesus calls those whom He desires to Himself. Those he calls, are men of His own purposeful choice. They did not choose Jesus. He chose them. This is like when an infant is adopted. The adoptive parents choose the child and makes them their own. The infant is passive in this. They become a member of a family from which they did not originate. Of course, this analogy is not perfect. Still, it illustrates Jesus takes purposeful initiative in the call of those who He would eventually commission. Those who He called came to him. They listened to the call and ascended the mountain to their Master, who chose them.

**Next, observe the King's choice and commission (14-15).** King Jesus makes twelve. A new creation is taking place here. The twelve are made into something they were not. These twelve he also called apostles. An apostle was more than a messenger; it was someone who was endowed with the authority and message of the one who sent them. The apostles would eventually be the foundations of the Church of Christ, the fulfillment of Israel, the multi-national redeemed people of God.

The purposes of calling and making the twelve are described in verses 14 and 15. He made them "so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach and have authority to cast out demons." They were called to be in close relationship with Jesus. Out of this intimate relationship, they were sent as His messengers to tell about Him and His reign in preaching and demonstrate Him and His reign in exorcism.

The Kingdom of God was at hand as John the Baptist and Jesus proclaimed. It arrived in the person and work of Jesus Christ. The weapons that would expand this Kingdom would not be the sword, but the Word and Power of the King, who accompanied and empowered His messengers. Jesus is not like the worldly kings of old, nor is he like the rulers of now, He is a King who is not of this world and the Kingdom He established and is building grows in ways not common to fallen man. The powerful Word of King overcomes the powers of darkness, frees the enslaved, and rolls back the curses of the fall. God and man would again be in restored relationship through the mediatorial reign of the God-Man, Jesus Christ. However, I am getting ahead of Mark in pointing to the substance of what is here shadowed. King Jesus chose twelve and commissions them to tell of and demonstrate the restoration of God's reign among men in His coming.

**Lastly, consider the King's chosen and commissioned (16-19).** The final portion of this story gives us a list of the twelve, who Jesus also called apostles. Many of them we know very little about. Four of them receive more emphasis in this list. The first three are the inner circle of our Lord: Simon, James, and John. They are given special names by Jesus. Simon is called Peter. Peter, though flawed, would become a key stone in the foundation of Jesus' Church. He would confess Jesus as the Christ and the Son of God. He would preach to thousands. He would lead as a pastor and apostle. He would write Holy Scripture. James and John, as brothers, were given a nickname, meaning sons of thunder. This may have come from their rashness or their zeal for Christ. Regardless, they, also, would be prominent in the establishment of the church. John would write five books in our New Testament. James was the first of the twelve to be Martyred, according to Luke ([Acts 12:2](#)).

Judas Iscariot is the final disciple of the list Mark gives. Mark gives special attention to the infamous act of this disciple. Look at verse 19, "and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him." Jesus said his disciples would fast when He is taken away from them. Here, Mark foreshadows and aspect of that day. Judas would betray the one who called him for money. The love of money can cause the most wicked of deeds, including betraying the Son of God. Yet, what Judas, religious authorities, and the Roman Powers willed for evil, God willed for good ([Gen 50:20](#); [Acts 2:23](#)).

The rest of the apostles are mentioned here and there in the Gospels and Acts. They were essential, but even more critical than they or their names is the one they represented, namely King Jesus.

Here are four charges grounded in the fact that Jesus is King:

1. Trust King Jesus and have childlike faith.
2. Trust King Jesus and embrace humble obscurity.
3. Trust King Jesus and preach royal truth.
4. Trust King Jesus and avoid tragic apostasy.

In summary, Jesus is set up as the King. He is the God of Mount Sinai, who calls and commissions new twelve tribes of Israel. He is the bringer of God's Kingdom and the King who mediates it. This calls for certain responses from us. The first is faith and from faith comes embracement of humble obscurity like 8 of the twelve, who bear no mention elsewhere in Mark and very little reference in the rest of Scripture. From faith we must also declare the glorious royal gospel of King Jesus who lived, died, rose, and will return. Unlike Judas we must be careful to watch our life and doctrine. Let us not be deceived into a mere outward expression of religion that doesn't bear the hidden marks of true saving faith.

**Young Children:** Encourage your children to trust in Jesus, the King of God's Kingdom.

**Older Children:** Memorize and discuss *Q. 23. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the state of sin and misery? A. God having, out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace, to deliver them out of the state of sin and misery, and to bring them into a state of salvation, by a Redeemer.*

**Teenagers/Adults:** If the teen doesn't know the catechism question, work through the same question. Discuss some of the questions that follow. The questions that follow assume that your teen, your spouse, and you are converted. How should we respond to the fact that Jesus is King? What does it mean to have childlike faith? Why should we embrace humble obscurity? What are the contents of the gospel we preach? Who is the main subject of it? What warning and encouragement can we take from the story of Judas?

*Listen Together*

Summary and Reflection

Read Mark 3:13-19. In this passage, we called to trust King Jesus.

1. Where did Jesus go? Who did Jesus call? How did they respond? (13)
2. What was another name for the twelve? What commission did He give them? What powers did He give them? (14-15)
3. Who is given more attention in the list? Why might this be the case? What foreshadowing do we find in this list? (16-19)

*Go Together: Faith Walk **Suggestions***

1. Go through the weekly prayer gram and pray through it with your family.
2. Practice catechism at a meal that your family shares several days of the week.

**Vista Baptist Weekly Prayer Gram**

Pray for One Another: James 5:16

Sunday School Teachers	Sunday School Members	Other
Their Families	Their Families	
Their Request	Their Request	

Pray for Kings and Those in Authority: 1 Timothy 2:2

Local	State	Nation
Your Mayor	Gov. Mike Parson	Pres. Donald Trump

Pray for the Gospel to Spread Among All People: Matthew 9:37-38

**Lohana in India**

One of the dominant communities of Gujarat, the Lohana migrated from Lohargaadh (now in Pakistan) a few centuries ago. They are Hindu and worship gods like Shankar and Srinath in addition to their family and clan deities. They engage Brahmin priests to conduct their ritual and religious functions. The community council looks after their welfare; it provides financial assistance to the poor and to deserving students for promoting education.

**Ministry Obstacles**

The Lohana community has had almost no opportunity to hear of Jesus. There is much that must be communicated to them.

**Outreach Ideas**

Indian Christians can overcome caste boundaries and carry the good news of Jesus to the Lohana community. Pray the Lord will give this vision and opportunity to several workers.

**Pray for the Followers of Christ**

There may be no followers of Jesus among the Lohana today, but pray for those that will soon come to faith. Pray they will be sent teachers to help them, as well as resources such as Gospel films and recordings. Pray they will be zealous to follow Christ.

**Pray for the Entire People Group**

Pray for discovery Bible studies to spread rapidly as they bless Lohana families and communities. Pray for the Lohana people to make education a priority for their youth. Pray

the entire community may maintain an adequate standard of living, and that the widow and orphan may be cared for.

**Scripture Focus**

"Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest?' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest." John 4:35<sup>1</sup>

Pray for Those Who Feed, Lead, and Care for the Church: Col. 4:3; 2 Thess. 3:1

**Pastor**

Jimmy Johnson

**Deacons**

Austin Shelby

Melvin Nance

Bill Meloy

Brett Shelby

**Ministry Directors**

Sunday School: Dan Wisner

Youth: Austin Shelby

Children: Marti Suiter

Missions: Mende Lewis

Music: Angie Howerton

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<sup>1</sup>[https://joshuaproject.net/people\\_groups/17380/IN](https://joshuaproject.net/people_groups/17380/IN)