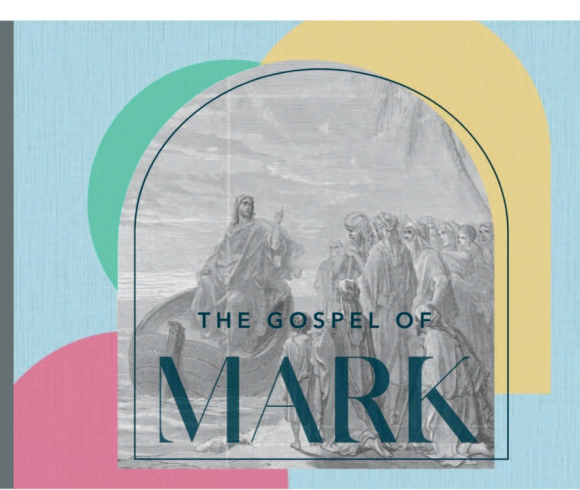


August 20, 2023

## FOLLOWERS, FOES, & FAMILY

Pastor Jason Uptmore // Mark 3:13-35



### PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



13 And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him. 14 And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach, 15 and to have authority to cast out the demons. 16 And He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom He gave the name Peter), 17 and James, the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James (to them He gave the name Boanerges, which means, "Sons of Thunder"); 18 and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot; 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him. 20 And He came home, and the crowd gathered again, to such an extent that they could not even eat a meal. 21 When His own people heard of this, they went out to take custody of Him; for they were saying, "He has lost His senses." 22 The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons." 23 And He called them to Himself and began speaking to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26 If Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but he is finished! 27 But no one can enter the strong man's house and plunder his property unless he first binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house. 28 "Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter; 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— 30 because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit." 31 Then His mother and His brothers arrived, and standing outside they sent word to Him and called Him. 32 A crowd was sitting around Him, and they said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are outside looking for You." 33 Answering them, He said, "Who are My mother and My brothers?" 34 Looking about at those who were sitting around Him, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother."



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## REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?

- How would you describe a social media follower?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

## GROW IN THE WORD

**01.** Jesus withdrew to the top of a mountain and called those he wanted to join him from among his followers. Jesus chose twelve to be his closest companions and to carry out the work of ministry he had been doing. He gave them authority to preach in his name and to cast out demons (v. 13-19).

- Why do you think Jesus chose a mountaintop for this occasion? Consider Exodus 19:17-20; Mark 6:46; Mark 9:2-8.

## GROW IN THE WORD

- What do you learn about the type of relationship Jesus wants with his followers based on his appointing of the twelve? See also John 15:4-5; John 17:20-23.

- What steps can you take to make relational intimacy and nearness to God the foundation of your life and ministry?

**02. A large crowd gathered around Jesus upon his return home including his family, who believed he was out of his mind. The scribes accused Jesus of being possessed by a demon and attributed his ministry to Satan. Jesus defended himself using the analogies of a divided kingdom and a divided house. Finally, he stated that his true family was made up of those who did the will of God (v. 20-35).**

- How would you describe the types of opposition Jesus experienced in this passage, and can you relate to any of it? See also Mark 3:6.



# GROW IN THE WORD

- Do you have any doubts that God has fully forgiven you for your sins? Consider 1 John 1:9; Romans 10:13.

- In what ways can the expectation or experience of opposition drive you deeper toward God, his will, and his people?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FALL GROUPS

Men & Women | Times & Locations Vary

Have you joined one of our Bible studies or Equipping Classes? We also have multiple support groups designed to help you deepen your walk with God in community with others at Wayside. Learn more online.

### CHURCH-WIDE WORSHIP NIGHT

September 6 | 7 - 8 pm | Worship Center

We believe worship is vital to our walk with Jesus. We have set aside time to gather corporately for a time to worship and fix our eyes on Jesus as we begin the fall semester. Learn more online.