



WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

A Life-Changing Invitation

Mark 3:13-14

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

VERSES FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

“Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to Him those He Wanted, and they came to Him.” Mark 3:13

Thomas reminds us what a unique invitation we receive from these words in Mark 3. To put it in perspective, all events that take place from that time forward were based on the truth that God desired them, and today, us. If we really sit with the news that God desires us just as we are, it is news that can never get old.

- *How often does the truth of being wanted by Jesus ring in your heart?*
- *If this calling to be with Jesus is the origin of all we are and all we become, how does this change how you perceive your worth and value?*

By using the words “those He wanted,” Jesus implies that we are invited to follow Him in relation to one another, and not alone. Our world today has become dominated by an individualistic point of view, and consequently, we are lonelier than ever before. We are not able to find ultimate meaning and authority on our own.

- *As followers of Jesus, we need those people who carry us, know us, love us, and pray for us. We must be willing to allow other people into our worlds. Who are the people you walk with?*
- *How has walking with others helped you encounter Jesus?*

The word “apostle” is translated from the Greek word “apostolos,” which refers to a messenger commissioned to carry out the instructions of the commissioning agent. When Jesus calls them, He immediately calls them “apostles.” Just as the apostles were transformed, when we walk with Jesus, people start to notice we’re different. As God shapes and forms us, we help shape and form the world.

- *What are some spiritual formation practices you can engage? Discuss opportunities and how this can change your priorities.*

Heavenly Father, we are overwhelmed daily at the blessings around us. How wonderful it is to know that we are invited and desired by You to live a life of meaning in partnership with You. Help us to prioritize Your will for our lives and help us discern those practices and efforts which can shape and form us into Your people. **Amen**