

"CALLED TO THE MOUNTAIN"

Mark 3:13-19

MLK's last speech: I've been to the mountaintop/I've seen the promised land. He saw the future. Our text: Jesus calls disciples up to the mountain. Wee the pattern of calling/usefulness for God.

Mark 3:13-19 ¹³And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. ¹⁴Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, ¹⁵and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: ¹⁶Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; ¹⁷James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; ¹⁸Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house.

I. CALLING

A. Our text reveals God's choice: **V13** called to Him those He Himself wanted.

1. **Calling is God's choice:** They didn't ask or apply – He called them! **Col 1:1** apostle by the will of God (5x)

a. You can't treat that lightly; Like ministry is a personal choice or preference

2. **We are called to be with Jesus:** **V14** that they might be with Him To be with Him:

a. You can't be a disciple unless you want to be with Jesus

1. *Prayer/the word/church/worship: For Jesus – and for you!* 2. **Exodus 33:11** Joshua wouldn't leave the tabernacle

3. **The purpose of calling is to preach:** **V14** that He might send them out to preach

a. So o be a disciple: Preach now! Evangelism b. Learn to preach now – for the future

4. **Obedience unlocks our calling** **V13** And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him.

a. The key is obedience: Why the mountain? That's His choice – go there. Our default should be yes

5. **Our calling is always to go up:** *Go higher with God*

a. Don't settle for where you're at right now

II. VARIETY

A. We make a mistake concerning calling/being used of God

1. You have to fit a type – you have to be like someone else

a. The Devil uses this to intimidate: *You're not like them – you could never do that!*

B. But the list of disciples is amazing

1. *Peter: A Bigmouth – always talking Bartholomew/Thaddeus – we never hear from them*

a. *James/John the sons of thunder: Aggressive b. Matthew: Probably educated vs. fishermen*

2. God includes this list to show us He can use all kinds of men!

C. The key is God's power: **V15** and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:

1. God will add something supernatural to enable you to do His will!

a. Whom God calls, He equips: The equipping will be different for every man

III. BETRAYAL

A. A sobering note is included in this list: **V19** and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

1. **But this is before** the betrayal: *They had no idea this was possible!*

a. *Old photos: We had no idea some of those would not be with us/not be saved*

2. We should not view this as Judas chosen to be the bad guy/villain

B. There were things in his heart that he never dealt with

1. Hidden sin/unhealthy desires: Greed **John 12:6** he was a thief...

a. What you don't overcome will one day overcome you!

2. Human will/expectations: Judas expected following Jesus should bring: Power and money!

a. So he spends 3 years with Jesus with an agenda

3. These are dangerous: *They make us vulnerable to hell*

a. Last supper: One of you will betray – is it me? Blinded to what was in him/what he was becoming

a. *John 13:27 Satan entered him*

C. The only answer is to deal with things – when God reveals them

1. Answer altar calls/repent/be honest with God