



### **Message Study Guide**

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on [thorncreek.church/live](http://thorncreek.church/live))

#### **Warming up**

1. Have you ever been sledding as an adult or a child?

#### **Digging Deeper & Application**

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Please read Mark 3:1-6. Do you think it's possible for us to forget why we're the church? Why?
3. Please read Mark 3:7-12. What do you see in these verses?
4. Please read Mark 3:13-19. Why were there 12 disciples?
  - a. What kind of men do you think these disciples were like?
  - b. Compare this quote from Max Lucado, "We need to remember that the first disciples were ordinary men called to an extraordinary mission."
5. According to Mark 6:7-13, what was the mission of the disciples?
6. Please read Mark 1:16-20. Compare with this quote: "The first ministers were the twelve disciples. There is no evidence that Jesus chose them because they are brighter or nicer than other people. Their sole qualification seems to have been their initial willingness to rise to their feet when Jesus said, "Follow me." (Frederick Buechner).
7. Do you think people choose to "follow" Jesus today with this kind of abandonment? Why or why not?
8. Match these descriptions with the appropriate disciple:
  - a. He is the son of Alphaeus, and was arrested and led to the place of execution, his unnamed accuser was moved by his courage. He not only repented and converted on the spot but asked to be executed alongside this apostle.
  - b. He was also known as Jude, Judas, and Lebbaeus. He was eventually martyred around the year 65 A.D. in Beirut and his body filled with arrows.
  - c. He was despised, became a missionary to Ethiopia and Egypt, then stabbed in the back by an assassin in Ethiopia.
  - d. He was the first to follow Jesus and was crucified on an X shaped cross.
  - e. He was a rock-like man who denied Christ three times, and was crucified upside down.
  - f. He was known for his doubt, then became a missionary and started the church in India. A group of angered locals martyred him with a spear (ironically).
  - g. He committed suicide.



- h. He was probably a political activist in his younger years. A was a man of fierce loyalties, amazing passion, courage, and zeal. He was crucified in 74 AD.
  - i. He was John's older brother and the first to be martyred at the age of 94. He and his brother were nicknamed, "Sons of Thunder".
  - j. He translated the Gospel of Matthew for believers in India. He eventually was beaten, crucified, and beheaded.
  - k. He was known as the disciple Jesus loved, and the only apostle to die a natural death.
  - l. His name means, "fond of horses", and became a missionary to Greece, Syria, and Phrygia, then was crucified around 54 A.D.
9. Which disciple do you think you are most like?
  10. How are today's Christians different from these disciples? Why? Compare your thoughts with this quote: "We are settling for a Christianity that revolves around catering to ourselves when the central message of Christianity is actually about abandoning ourselves." (David Platt)
  11. What does a consumer Christian look like today? Compare with this quote: "You can do more with 12 disciples than with 1,200 religious consumers." (Alan Hirsch).
  12. What are your thoughts about this quote? "Lukewarm people call 'radical' what Jesus expected of all His followers." (Francis Chan).
  13. Please read the rest of Mark 3. Any thoughts come to mind?
  14. What changes or decisions do you need to make in your life to look more like

### **Application**

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message.  
Discuss how they apply to your life.

- On the heels of doing great things for God, you will find opposition.
- "We need to remember that the first disciples were ordinary men called to an extraordinary mission." - Max Lucado
- "Peter's character is descriptive of a rock-like man, dependable, immovable, equal to the emergencies and crises that confront him." -Kenneth Wuest
- "Lukewarm people call 'radical' what Jesus expected of all His followers." - Francis Chan
- If you aren't willing to die for your belief, then it's not worth living for it.