



Rockbridge Church Small Groups Lesson 3
Mark 3 – Real Jesus (Read Mark 3)

1. What do you see in Mark 3 that helps you know what Jesus is like?
2. In what ways do you see Jesus hard at work, on a mission, with a purpose, loving people?
3. What one thing about Jesus stands out to you in this chapter? (What about Jesus astonishes you, amazes you, challenges you or comforts you?)
4. In Mark 3, who encounters Jesus, and how do they respond to Him?
5. How are you responding to the Jesus you encountered in Mark 3?
6. What was most instructive, and what did you appreciate most from Sunday's sermon?

Check out the additional notes on The Call of Jesus on the next page.

The Call

*And He went up on the mountain and called those whom He Himself wanted,
and they came to Him. — Mark 3:14*

In short, calling in the Bible is a central and dynamic theme that becomes a metaphor for the life of faith itself. To limit the word to an event or point in time is to miss the forest for the trees.

The call is the gospel, and the gospel is the call. Jesus made that clear when He defined His mission — why He was sent, and why He came.

*Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician,
but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners." — Mark 2:17*

*Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God . . . Jesus said to His disciples, "let us
go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may preach there also,
for that is what I came for." - Mark 1:14,38*

Jesus equates these things — the call and the gospel. Calling sinners and proclaiming the gospel. If there is any distinction, it is in the response. The gospel is a message to be believed; the call is an invitation to be answered.

The call is personal and relational and individual. Jesus called His followers, and still does, to be with Him. We hear and answer the call. We know how to answer calls.

Consider the following descriptive statements about "the call", and consider the personal implications of each one.

- * The Call is by Jesus
- * The Call is to Jesus
 - > First and foremost, we are called to Someone, not to something
- * The Call is for Jesus
- * The Call is to everyone
- * The Call is in everything
- * The Call is all the time

So the call is comprehensive. It is by Jesus, to Jesus, for Jesus. It is to everyone, in everything, all the time. Jesus calls us to Himself and for Himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have is invested with a new meaning, a life-altering direction, a life-giving purpose, and a life-changing mission. The call of Jesus is the start of an extraordinary life on a great adventure