

5. Crowding Jesus

Mark 3:7 -35

Introduction

Have you ever been in a large crowd? Why did the crowd form and what was it like to be part of it?

In Galilee people were crowding the Lord Jesus. In chapter 3 the crowd following Jesus gets mentioned a number of times. Jesus withdrew to the lake and a large crowd followed him (3:7). The Lord had to retreat to a small boat to keep the people from crowding him (3:8). Jesus entered a house and again a crowd formed so that the disciples were not even able to eat. The crowds followed him but this didn't mean that they were close to him. In chapter 3 we see that not everyone crowding the Lord Jesus was close to the kingdom of God even though it had drawn near to them. The sad truth is that not everyone who draws near gets close to Jesus.

At the lake

Matthew describes the crowds that followed the Lord Jesus and why they were attracted to him in verses 7 to 19. Please read 3:7-19.

1. Where were the people coming from and why were they coming?

2. How did the evil spirits respond to Jesus and what did the Lord Jesus tell them to do?

3. Who did the Lord call up the mountainside and why did he call them?

Think about it

The crowds followed Jesus and pressed in on him but crowding Jesus was not enough.

How did the Twelve get to go up the mountainside with the Lord Jesus?

Why do you think Twelve were chosen and what was to be their role?

At the house

The setting of verses 20 to 35 is at a house. Jesus entered a house and again the crowd gathered so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat (20). Please read verses 20 to 30 to discover how far away those who were crowding Jesus really were.

4. How did the family of Jesus react when they heard that the crowds were so bad that Jesus and his disciples were not even able to eat?

5. What did the teachers of the law from Jerusalem accuse Jesus of?

6. What was the point of the parable that the Lord Jesus told?

Think about it

What was Jesus ministry all about?

What is blasphemy of the Spirit and how is this sin committed?

Should we worry whether or not we have committed it?

What prevents people from entering the kingdom of God?

Having heard about the effect that the crowds and ministry was having on Jesus his family arrive at the house to take charge of Jesus. Please read verse 31 to 35.

7. What happened when the family arrived?

8. What point does the Lord Jesus make on this occasion?

Think about it

What does it mean to the will of God?

Conclusion

Crowding Jesus didn't bring you close to him but rather it was to do the will of God and repent and believe the good news.

Think about it

What other ways do people deceive themselves thinking that they are close to Jesus when they really aren't?