

Mark 3:7-12

4 Examples Of The Pressures Of Life & Ministry That Jesus Helps Us Through



Background & Context

- Author: follower of Jesus, John Mark
- Audience: primarily Roman audience
- Written: (64-65 AD) Show Jesus is the Savior of whole world, both Jews and Gentiles
- Verses: Jesus continues Galilean ministry; after conflict with religious leaders, He moves to private area
- Ministry continues to grow and be successful
- Mark; summary statement of Jesus' life and ministry and pressures He encountered

Dealing With Many People Of Different Types

- (vv.7-9) Here, inside picture of pressures of Jesus and Disciples' everyday life
- Jesus in remote area, but people still flock to Him; came from everywhere; Galilee, Judea, Idumea, beyond the Jordan River, Tyre & Sidon
- Literally thousands from north, south, east, and west
- Jesus; much pressure dealing with large numbers of people who different; culture, customs, languages, religion, etc
- One of great pressures of life is dealing with people and different personalities
- Human nature is not always pretty

- Luke 7:31-32, “And the Lord said, ‘To what shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like?’ ‘They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying:’ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we mourned to you, and you did not weep.’”



Experiencing The Results Of Misplaced Appreciation

- (v.10) See thousands flocked to Jesus, but not because of Who He was/is, but because of what He could do for them
- People saw Jesus as good teacher and miracle worker
- Despite Jesus' priority on God's Word and the Scriptures, people moved and captivated by His miracles and what they could receive
- Strong temptation to seek healing, but not the Healer; the provisions, but not the Provider
- One pressure, feeling like people only care about what we can do for them

- John 6:26-27, “Jesus answered them and said, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.’ ‘Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life...’”



Sacrificially Serving The Needs Of Others

- (v.10) Jesus here shows He the Messiah; He has come to set the captives free and heal hurts; bring deliverance, both physically and spiritually
- “afflictions” - “scourges, hurtful blows” – severe physical hurts
- “pressed about” – “to fall upon, to jump at” – people were throwing themselves at Jesus just to touch Him
- So many hurting and in need; so many desperate and in terrible circumstances; overwhelming
- Only Jesus can meet all the needs of people; He is the One Who saves and heals, not us

- John 15:5, “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”
- Phils. 4:19, “For my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory.”



Combatting The Forces Of Evil

- (vv.11-12) Jesus here shows He complete Sovereign and supreme authority
- “unclean spirits” – “evil, demonic forces that are under authority of Satan
- “whenever they saw Him” – “Jesus’ presence alone was enough for evil forces to surrender and bow before Him”
- “fell down before Him” – “Affirmed Jesus’ identity (Son of God) and bowed before Him in submission”
- Believers cannot be possessed by demonic forces, but can be oppressed by them
- Two extremes; see as myth, be overly consumed with

- I Peter 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

