

Mark 3:13-19

3 Clarifications Of Biblical Service



Background/Context

- ▶ Gospel of Mark is Gospel of action; Jesus is moving, going, doing
- ▶ Here, Jesus is building Kingdom of God by selecting, empowering servants; those who help others
- ▶ Kingdom of Jesus moves forward by and through everyday service
- ▶ Believers/Churches are called to be servants

Spiritual Connection For Service

- ▶ (vv.13-14b) Very important time for Jesus; showing how service is foundation of Christian life
- ▶ (Luke 6:12-13) shows Jesus spent all night in prayer before selecting special Disciples (great example)
- ▶ This didn't mean these men were better, or more valued than others, only they had their own assignment in Kingdom
- ▶ Big Key: Jesus called Disciples to Himself; not church, denomination, or organization
- ▶ Biblical service is a byproduct of relationship with Jesus

- ▶ 2020 Research Study: Center For Health and Happiness at Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- ▶ Researchers tracked; 13,000 people, aged 50 and above, from 2010 to 2016
- ▶ Adults who volunteered 100 hours or more a year; had 44% reduced mortality rate and 17% reduced risk of impaired physical function compared to those who didn't volunteer

Special Content Of Service

- ▶ (vv.14c-15) Bible teaches every believer can serve
- ▶ All been given spiritual gifts at time of salvation
- ▶ This applied by meeting needs and healing hurts; impacting peoples' lives with character of Jesus
- ▶ Here, Mark records service in general categories; “send them out to preach”, “have power to heal sicknesses”, “and to cast out demons”
- ▶ Comprehensive service; meeting physical and spiritual needs according to the teachings of Scripture



Specific Calling Into Service

- ▶ (vv. 16-19) Jesus specifically calls special servants by name
- ▶ Jesus (as God) created and knew these men; they had special God-ordained destiny that went beyond the natural
- ▶ These men not perfect, not without faults, but chosen by God for special service
- ▶ Same with every believer and church
- ▶ Every person created to know Jesus and serve in His Kingdom now and forever

- ▶ “God is a Master of picking a Nobody, and making them a Somebody, in front of Everybody, without asking approval from Anybody.”