

## Ambassadors for Christ

Mark 3:7-19

<sup>7</sup> Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the lake, and a large crowd from Galilee followed. <sup>8</sup> When they heard about all he was doing, many people came to him from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, and the regions across the Jordan and around Tyre and Sidon. <sup>9</sup> Because of the crowd he told his disciples to have a small boat ready for him, to keep the people from crowding him. <sup>10</sup> For he had healed many, so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him. <sup>11</sup> Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.” <sup>12</sup> But he gave them strict orders not to tell others about him.

<sup>13</sup> Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. <sup>14</sup> He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach <sup>15</sup> and to have authority to drive out demons. <sup>16</sup> These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), <sup>17</sup> James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means “sons of thunder”), <sup>18</sup> Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot <sup>19</sup> and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

### Guidance for Discussion

1. What do you think it would have been like to be in the midst of that “large crowd”? Describe the different people there, what their attitude seemed to be. Why were they there? What did they want from Jesus?
2. What was the reason or reasons you first became interested in Jesus. Share with the group.
3. When you look at the group of people Jesus appointed, what stands out to you as important about them? What is the significance of the details that we get on certain people?
4. What are the three things that are the purposes for Jesus appointing these people? What do you think the significance of each purpose is?
5. Can you see any applications from this passage for today?
6. For fun... as a group write down yourselves as if you were these people... what key details would you have tagged to your name?