



Discussion Questions

OCTOBER 18, 2026

KEY TAKEAWAY

Being near Jesus is not the same as following Jesus.

ACTION STEP

Do one thing this week that following Jesus has been calling you to do even if it costs you something.

ICEBREAKER

- What's something you're a huge fan of (sports team, musician, hobby, show, etc.?) and what separates a casual fan from a serious one in that fandom?

THE CROWD. READ MARK 3:7-12.

- Pastor Chase made the point that "proximity to Jesus is not the same thing as discipleship." What are some ways a person can be very close to Christianity without actually following Jesus?
- Why is it so easy to want what Jesus can do for us more than we want Jesus Himself?
- Where do you see the temptation to treat Jesus as someone who should improve our lives rather than as the King who has authority over them?



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THE CALL. *READ MARK 3:13–19.*

- Before Mark tells us what the Twelve would do, he tells us Jesus wanted them “to be with Him.” Why do you think that comes first?
- What does it teach us about Jesus that He chose ordinary, imperfect people rather than the religious elite?
- Pastor Chase gave four realities about the call of a disciple: the King initiates the call, it requires surrender, He equips those He calls, and following Him requires counting the cost. Which of those is most encouraging or challenging to you right now?

COUNTING THE COST. *READ MARK 8:34–35 & MARK 3:20–21*

- Jesus’ own family thought He was “out of His mind.” What does this teach us about the possibility of being misunderstood even by people we love because of our obedience to God?
- Following Jesus cost the apostles tremendously. What might costly obedience realistically look like for us in our context?