

Mark / Chapter 3

Short Summaries

Jesus healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath day, and the Pharisees were so angry that they plotted to kill him.

The chapter begins with Jesus healing a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath day. The Pharisees were enraged and plotted to kill Jesus.

Summaries

Mark 3 is the story of Jesus' healing of a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath. The Pharisees are angry and want to kill Jesus, but he escapes.

Jesus taught in the synagogue in Capernaum and was questioned by the scribes. He healed a man with an unclean spirit, and the scribes accused him of being possessed by Satan. Jesus then went to the seashore with his disciples and healed many people of their diseases.

Application Questions

What do you think the religious leaders' goals were in trying to trap Jesus?

How do you think the people who were healed felt?

What do you think it says about Jesus that so many people were following Him?

How would you have reacted if you were one of Jesus' family or one of the teachers of the law who saw Him healing on the Sabbath?

What does it mean to you that Jesus heals on the Sabbath?

What do you think Jesus' goals were in healing on the Sabbath?

What do you think the crowds were thinking when they saw Jesus healing on the Sabbath?

Why do you think Jesus chose the twelve disciples?

Exegetical Questions

What does it mean that Jesus "looked around at them with anger" in 3:5?

How do the scribes' accusation that Jesus is possessed reflect their misunderstanding of his ministry?

How does Jesus' response to the man with the withered hand challenge the assumptions of the scribes?

How does Jesus' appointment of the twelve disciples in Mark 3:13-19 reflect his mission?

What do the crowds' response to Jesus in Mark 3:20-21 indicate about their understanding of him?

What does it mean that Jesus' family "came to take charge of him" in Mark 3:21?

What brings the crowds to Capernaum in Mark 3:7-12?

What is the significance of the fact that Jesus heals on the Sabbath?

Observation Questions

What does Jesus say to His family and to the teachers of the law?

How does Jesus' family react when they see Him?

How do the teachers of the law react when they see Jesus?

How do the crowds react when they see Jesus healing and appointing the twelve?

How do people react when they see Jesus healing on the Sabbath?

Why does Jesus heal on the Sabbath?

Why does Jesus appoint the twelve?

What qualifications does Jesus look for in the twelve?

Group Discussion Questions

Do you think that Jesus intentionally did miracles on the Sabbath to provoke people?

Do you think that Jesus' family and the teachers of the law had valid points in accusing him?

How do you think the people in the crowd felt when they saw Jesus healing on the Sabbath?

How do you think the disciples felt when they were being appointed by Jesus?

What do you think the disciples thought of Jesus' actions in appointing them?

What do you think the people in the crowd were expecting when they followed Jesus?

Why do you think that Jesus chose twelve disciples?

How do you think the people in the crowd would have reacted if they knew that Jesus was eventually going to be crucified?