



BEING WITH JESUS

Mark 12:13-15

The Big Picture: The Christian life is not me living for Jesus. It is Jesus living through me. There are three essential words: Invitation, Intimacy, and Overflow. Many people miss the critical aspect of being with Jesus. They falsely believe that they have to do something for Jesus but don't need the Intimacy with Him. That's backward. Start with Intimacy. Then see what happens.

1. Following Jesus Begins with an Invitation.

Mark 3:13-15 *Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.* ¹⁴ He appointed twelve--designating them apostles--**that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach** (announce or make public) ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons.

Isaiah 59:2 *Your iniquities (sin, willful wrongdoing) have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you so that he will not hear.*

1 Timothy 2:3-6 *This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and us, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given in its proper time.*

Matthew 7:22-23 *Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'*

2. Following Jesus is all about Intimacy.

The primary call on my life is NOT to do something for Jesus...

The primary call on my life is to be with Jesus.

The Goal is the relationship.

John 17:3 *Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*

What is Christianity in its simplest form?

Overall Goal: Know God. **Daily Goal:** to spend time with God.

The challenging aspect of following Jesus: living moment by moment out of the overflow

3. Following Jesus overflows into every area of my life.

The invitation then Intimacy, then the overflow .

"that they might be with him and that he might send them out."

Preach = announce, to make public

Christianity is the spontaneous overflow of the life of Christ through us.

4. Everything Jesus desires to do through you,

He will accomplish as the overflow of His relationship with you.

People get so wrapped up in "wanting to know God's will" for them. Huge question. The simple answer for now is: you don't have to know the will of God. All you have to know is God, and He will accomplish His will through you.

2 Corinthians 11:3 *But I am afraid that just as the serpent's cunning deceived Eve, your minds may somehow be led astray from the **simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.***

LifeGroup Worksheet

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

1. Reflect - *How has God been working in your life? How has He provided, comforted, answered, reconciled, or guided you? Be open to sharing both your successes and struggles.*

2. Review - LifeNotes on the opposite side.

3. Read - **Mark 12:13-15** *carefully several times, both with your group and alone.*

4. Engage and Explore - *Try to answer at least one question.*

- a. By what criteria do you choose your friends? When did you get it, right? When did you pick a person who ended up not being a friend? In Mark, how does Jesus pick his friends?
- b. What is important to God in this passage? What hits you?
- c. Review the Scripture in #1 on the other side. Have you responded to the invitation?
- d. Why did Jesus call people in this lesson?



5. Connect - *how this passage applies to you and your relationship to Jesus and others. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you through this passage? Try to answer at least one question.*

- a. Read Mark 3:16-19. What does the fact that Jesus chose as apostles both Simon the Zealot, a political extremist, Matthew the tax collector, a traitor working for the occupying government, and Judas, who would betray Jesus tell us about the kingdom of God? How is that good news for you? Or not?
- b. The primary call on my life is NOT to do something for Jesus. The immediate call on my life is to be with Jesus. Why is this challenging? What is the shape of your life now? How are you with Jesus?
- c. Following Jesus overflows into all of life. What is the actual "overflow" happening now for you? How would your closest friends describe your "overflow?" What needs to be changed? When will you do that?
- d. Everything Jesus desires to do through you, He will accomplish as the overflow of His relationship with you. People get so wrapped up in "wanting to know God's will" for them. Huge question. The simple answer for now is: you don't have to know the will of God. All you have to know is God, and He will accomplish His will through you. Discuss how this may or may not make Christ following a little clearer.

6. Silent Meditation - *You may want to move away from the group to a quiet spot. Silently read the Scripture several more times. Write down the words/passage you want to focus on this week and how you plan to apply God's truth to your life. What is God saying, and what will you do?*

7. Share - *Key insights with your group from question #6.*

8. Close in Prayer - *Try using different prayer models found in the LifeGroup Leader Handbook*