Mark: Are You A Member of Jesus' Family? Sunday: 01/28/24 - Lenard Tavernelli - Mark 3:7-35

"Consider your response to Jesus and be a member of Jesus' family who does God's will by Repenting and believing in the gospel."

Overview

This week Pastor Lenard finished out chapter three of the Gospel according to Mark. In this passage we saw the healing of the great crowds, the calling of the 12, and the passage concerning blaspheming the Holy Spirit. From these three passages Pastor Lenard highlighted four <u>improper</u> responses to Jesus and two right and proper responses to our Lord. In his message Pastor Lenard reminded us that the church is comprised of all different types of people with one thing in common; Jesus Christ.

Outline

Wrong Responses

- 1. Seeking Jesus as a means to an end (7-10)
- 2. Only knowing the truth about Jesus (11-12): James 2:19,
- 3. Considering Jesus a lunatic (20-21)
- 4. Rejecting Jesus as a liar (22-30): Exodus 23:20-21

Right Responses

- 1. Receive the Apostolic Gospel: Acts 1:21-22, 1 Peter 2:9-10
- 2. Do God's will: John 1:12-13, Romans 12:2, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 & 5:16-18

Discussion Questions

- 1. Pastor Lenard highlighted that doing God's will was not about the specific details of life but obedience to what God has called us to?
 - a. Can you describe a time when you attempted to find God's will for your life? How does obedience vs. finding the specific details in life change your mindset and approach concerning God's will?
- 2. The crowds came to Jesus for what he could do and not really for him or his message. How can knowing the shortcomings of seeking Jesus as a means to end or simply knowing facts change how we approach him daily?
 - a. How can understanding these wrong responses change how we witness to others?
- 3. Pastor Lenard quoted C.S. Lewis on Jesus being either a lunatic, a liar, or Lord; Jesus left us no other option.
 - a. How does this line of thinking change how you think about Jesus?
 - b. Do you think this is a good line of reasoning to share with an unbeliever? What other information do you need to support this line of thinking? (For example: Why would we call him a liar or lunatic?)
- 4. Pastor Lenard stated that if you reject Jesus, you cannot be saved. Rejection of God is the concept behind the idea of blaspheming the Holy Spirit. Pastor Lenard encouraged us with the idea that if you are worried about committing this sin you likely have not committed it. The opposite of this would be doing God's will (knowing what God has said in scripture and putting it into practice).
 - a. When considering your right response to Jesus, what areas do you need to work on receiving the apostolic gospel and putting his will/Word into practice? What practical steps do you need to take?
- 5. Was there anything else that stood out to you in the sermon?

