

**Mark 3:7-7:23****Thursday, February 18 – Mark 3:7-30**

1. In verse 14 we are told, He [Jesus] appointed twelve—designating them apostles—that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach. Jesus designated some of his disciples as apostles. What is the difference between the word “disciple” and “apostle”?
2. The crowd had come to Jesus to see and experience his miraculous power (verses 7-12). Members of Jesus’ family had accused him of being out of his mind (verses 20,21). The Pharisees had accused Jesus of driving out demons by the prince of demons (verse 22). Yet some were true members of Jesus’ family. Who are they—then and today?

**Friday, February 19 – Mark 3:31-4:25**

3. What warning does this parable offer the Christian who thinks, “Jesus loves me this I know, that is all I need to know.”

**Saturday, February 20 – Mark 4:26-5:20**

4. 4:35-41 - Contrast Jesus sleeping in the back of the boat with the fear and anxiety of the disciples. Is Jesus sleeping in the back of the boat of your life?
5. 5:1-5:20 – How is the power of Satan shown in this story? How is the power of Jesus shown?

**Sunday, February 21 – Mark 5:21-43**

6. How did the Lord put Jairus to an especially great test? What are some great tests the Lord has allowed you to endure in your life?
7. Why would the woman have found it very difficult to approach Jesus for healing?

**Monday, February 22 – Mark 6:1-29**

8. Many who heard Jesus preach in his hometown synagogue were amazed at what he said. But something kept them from listening to him. What was that? What insight might this provide as to why a pastor is not usually extended a divine call to serve his home congregation?

9. With Jesus was rejected in his hometown, the disciples met opposition, and John the Baptist was unjustly put to death. What can we learn from Jesus about how to deal with opposition?

### **Tuesday, February 23 – Mark 6:30-56**

10. Which details of the feeding of this multitude make clear that this event was a miracle? How were these miracles symbolic of the spiritual blessings Jesus desires to bring to all people?
11. Verse 48 - "*Fourth watch*"—Between 3 and 6 A.M.
12. Verse 52 - "*Their hearts were hardened.*" The disciples' hearts were not hardened in opposition to Jesus and his ministry but hardened in spiritual understanding. They failed to grasp the purpose and full meaning of the miracle of bread and fish as well as the stilling of the storm.

### **Wednesday, February 24 – Mark 7:1-23**

13. Verse 3 "*Ceremonial washing*"—These traditions were an expansion of God's commandment for priests prior to entering the tabernacle (Exodus 30:19; 40:12). There was no biblical command to wash before eating or for extensive washing of various eating utensils. While such washings were hygienically wise and good common sense, the Pharisees and teachers of the law insisted that these washings were a proper interpretation of God's will—and thus mandatory.
14. Verse 5 "*Tradition of the elders*"—These were man-made interpretations of God's law. Unfortunately, the Jewish leaders considered these traditions more important than the original law of God.
15. Verse 11 "*Corban*"—A gift dedicated to God. This was a gift the giver withheld from his parents. It could also be withheld from God and used by the giver himself.
16. Verse 19 "*In saying this, Jesus declared all foods 'clean.'*" The church would have to wrestle with this point for many years. Mark may have included this to make it clear to his Roman readers that they were under no obligation to keep the ceremonies, which many of the Jews around them chose to keep.
17. A controversy arises in the church. A grandmother has willed part of her estate to Amazing Grace. She simply states that she would like her monetary gift to go toward music enhancement for worship. Some members insist that a grand piano needs to be purchased. Other members insist this is not necessary. In what way will the words of this lesson be of help in dealing with this problem?