



| Observations   | Questions  |
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| <p><i>Context: 3:1-12</i></p> <p><i>-- 3:1-6; exemplifies an instance of Christ confronting the Pharisees, and the general opposition to Christ growing more violent. Pharisees and Herodians are mentioned by name, indicating that enemies of Christ are becoming motivated politically as well as religiously.</i></p> <p><i>-- 3:7-12; shows Christ exiting the synagogue (area of high tensions) after the confrontation with the Pharisees. As Jesus sought to exit, a group of people from all through the nearby regions began to "crowd" him. This became such an issue that Christ instructed the disciples to prepare a boat for him so that he may be distanced from the crowd.</i></p> <p><i>--3:1-12; indicates various themes such as the growing tensions, public unrest, evolving fanaticism, and Christ's desiring to be distanced from the people when gathered in large crowds. I would expect all or most of these themes to be related, in some measure or another, to the passage of text that follows.</i></p> | <p><i>Context: 3:1-12</i></p>  |
| <p>1. Jesus left the public setting. (13)</p>  | <p>1. Is Mark communicating or inferring an idea that Christ desired to be further from people, wanting to distance or space? (13)</p> <p>2. If so, why does Christ desire the distancing? (13)</p> <p>3. What significance does this message hold in terms of Jesus' mindset at this point in the narrative? (13)</p> |
| <p>2. Jesus chooses to leave to a mountainside. (13)</p>   | <p>4. Why has Jesus chosen to go to a mountainside rather than remain in the boat, some other isolated area? (13)</p>  |

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|  | 5. Does Mark use the mountainside setting as a motif in order to place emphasis on whatever event is about to occur? (13)  |
| 3. Jesus only requested a certain set of people to accompany him, deemed by Mark as “those he wanted.” (13)                                    | 6. How did this “call” go out? How was it delivered? (13)<br><br>7. What were the defining characteristics and traits of those that “he wanted?” What set them apart from the rest? (13)   |
| 4. “Those he wanted” implies that there were also followers that Jesus did not want to be present with him on the mountainside. (13)           | 8. If this is the case, what is the purpose of calling only the select few, rather than the whole group? (13)<br><br>9. If this is the case, were all followers made aware that only some had been called to join Jesus? (13)<br><br>10. If so, was there friction or tension created within the group of disciples due to this potential division of ‘wanted’ versus ‘unwanted?’ (13)<br><br>11. By the use of the qualifier “wanted,” is Mark insinuating that there is something notably different about these specific character (i.e. spirituality, dedication, education, intellect, motivations, etc.)? (13)<br><br>12. Does the use of the qualifier “wanted” assign a weight of importance to these specific characters? (13) |
| 5. The response of the called does not imply or indicate any hesitation or question, but potentially implies immediacy in their response. (13) | 13. Is Mark drawing the inference that the called did actually respond immediately? (13)<br><br>14. If so, why did they respond in this manner? (13)<br><br>15. Was there a cause for a sense of urgency in the call that would create or necessitate such immediate response? (13)<br><br>16. What is Mark’s reasoning and purpose in drawing attention to it? (13)   |
| 6. The passage specifically denotes that only “Twelve” were appointed. (14)  | 17. Were more than just these “Twelve” present on the mountainside during this time? (14)  |

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|   | <p>18. If so, for what purpose are the unmentioned characters present with them? (14)</p> <p>19. Were all “Twelve” summoned together? Would there have been any need to call them separately? (14)</p> <p>20. How were these appointments decided on? (14)</p>   |
| 7. The action of appointment had two reasons that are described in this passage. (14)                   | <p>21. What purpose is served in the way that Mark has formatted this passage to present the causations of this action in this way? [action=appointing] (14)</p>   |
| 8. The first purpose of Jesus appointing these Twelve was so “they might be with him.” (14)             | <p>22. What does it mean for the context of their world to ‘be’ with a person? What type of commitment is this? (14)</p> <p>23. How has this translated over into our context in the modern world? (14)</p>  |
| 9. The second purpose of Jesus appointing these Twelve was that he might do something to/for them. (14) | <p>24. Is there a significance that Mark is emphasizing when presenting these two causes? (14)</p> <p>25. What does it mean to “send” out as Mark has written here? (14)</p> <p>26. Is the purpose of presenting Cause 1 (point 8 on left) to explain how Jesus intends to prepare the appointees for Cause 2 (point 9 on left)? (14-15)</p>   |
| 10. Jesus intends to send these twelve to preach. (14)  | <p>27. Where does Jesus intend to send them to preach? To whom will these Twelve be preaching? (14)</p> <p>28. Why has Jesus decided to send out preachers rather than continue on his own as he has been? (14)</p> <p>29. What message are these Twelve being sent out to preach? (14)</p> <p>30. Is their message going to be a continuation or a reiteration of Jesus’ own message? (14)</p> <p>31. How does Christ intend to prepare them to</p> |

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|   | <p>go and preach? (14)</p> <p>32. How long does/will this training/preparation process last? (14)</p> <p>33. Why does mark draw attention to the notion that Christ is desiring to create/appoint preachers? (14)</p>   |
| <p>11. Jesus intends to imbue these Twelve with the “authority to drive out demons.” (15)</p> | <p>34. Why has Jesus elected to impart this authority to these Twelve? (15)</p> <p>35. How does Jesus intend to actually bestow this authority onto them? (15)</p> <p>36. What does it mean for one to drive out demons? (15)</p> <p>37. Does Jesus foresee the Twelve needing to possess this authority for some reason or cause? (15)</p> <p>38. Is this authority that is being imparted to these Twelve an extension of Jesus’ own authority (i.e. Will they be casting out demon through Christ’s authority rather than their own?) (15)</p> <p>39. If so, why not also bestow the authority/ability to heal the sick and perform miracles? (15)</p> <p>40. Does Mark mean something different when he says ‘authority’ rather than ‘ability,’ even though these are somewhat synonymous here? (15)</p> <p>41. Why does Mark readdress the motif of authority at this point in the narrative? (15)</p> <p>42. Does this authority still exist as an imparted gift of the Spirit today? (15)</p> <p>43. Is it different in the context of our world? If so, how is it different? (15)</p> |