

Entrust to Faithful People

MARK 3:7-19 Jesus departed with his disciples to the sea, and a great multitude from Galilee followed him; **8**hearing all that he was doing, they came to him in great numbers from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and the region around Tyre and Sidon. **9**He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, so that they would not crush him; **10**for he had cured many, so that all who had diseases pressed upon him to touch him. **11**Whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and shouted, "You are the Son of God!" **12**But he sternly ordered them not to make him known.

13He went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him. **14**And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to proclaim the message, **15**and to have authority to cast out demons. **16**So he appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); **17**James son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); **18**and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, **19**and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-2 You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; **2**and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well.

2 TIMOTHY 2:14-15 Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. **15**Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.



How does Jesus interact with the various groups of people in Mark?

Who does Jesus call?

For what purposes does Jesus select out the twelve?

According to these passages, what are some of the identifying characteristics of a leader?

Leadership Selection

CASE STUDY

In the fall, Meredith and Erica started leading a dorm based small group. The group continues to grow in size and depth. At the beginning of the year the staff and small group coordinators asked all the small group leaders to identify and invest heavily in anyone with the potential for leading a small group in the spring. The group has six consistent members who participate in the small group community during and outside of the meeting time. Jin Tae is one of the freshmen members of the groups and attends every week and often brings a non-Christian friend. Along with his passion to share Jesus with people comes a high level of cynicism of the church structure and authority. Carrie is the one of the three members who has been with the small group since last academic year. Along with a strong knowledge of Scripture, Carrie has a high level of ownership and commitment to the group, but shoots down any ideas that introduce something new to the group. Jordan has been taking the lead with worship and prayer in the group. He is gifted and sensitive to the diverse church backgrounds represented in the group. Jordan does however, get a little over zealous and forget to leave enough time for the Bible study. Jackie is a quiet, but regular member of the group and is known for being the encourager in the group. She is a new Christian, but has been responsive to meeting with Meredith for discipleship.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Who are the key leaders Meredith and Erica should invest in and what characteristics draw you to them as potential leaders?

How would you suggest Meredith and Erica invest in them so they will be ready to lead in the spring?

Leaders are marked by _____ to God and mission.

Ownership not _____ - Leaders should have ownership of the mission, but they are not called to control of it. While leadership does imply authority it is only an aspect of the role not the role itself.

Accessible not _____ - Much like the disciple potential leaders can be identified by their availability not just their ability.

Responsive not _____ - Potential leaders are identified by their ability to set priorities and respond to unexpected opportunities to minister, while having the ability to discern which opportunities to take on.

Who in your ministry would be good choices to invest more time in? Why?

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How does Jesus interact with the various groups of people in Mark?

Jesus teaches and heals the multitudes. Gathers and delegates to the disciples: they help him with crowd control, they are partners in his ministry even before he gives them authority and power. Appoints the Apostles: they are brought closer in order to be sent out

Who does Jesus call?

Those "he wanted" and those who "came to him". It is possible that some of the people Jesus invited to join him on the mountain that day would have liked to come, but weren't available or didn't understand its importance.

For what purposes does Jesus select out the twelve?

To be with him, to proclaim the message, to have authority to cast out demons: to be with him and to be like him.

According to these passages, what are some of the identifying characteristics of a leader?

"...present yourself to God as one approved by him" and "faithful people, able to teach others" Leaders are distinguished by their faithfulness to God and the Mission.

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How would you suggest Meredith and Erica invest in them so they will be ready to lead in the spring?

Leaders are marked by **faithfulness** to God and mission.

Ownership not **CONTROL** - Leaders should have ownership of the mission, but they are not called to control of it. While leadership does imply authority it is only an aspect of the role not the role itself.

Leaders have a high level of ownership and belief in the mission, but should be willing to provide opportunities for others to lead. Delegating and sharing the ministry is one of the best ways to see someone faithfulness demonstrated. A strong leader is one who leads with an open posture and is not threatened by those who are attempting to walk with them in the work.

Accessible not **OCCUPIED** - Much like the disciple potential leaders can be identified by their availability not just their ability. Identify potential leader by hearts that are responsive to the needs of the community and the authority in their lives. The disciples did little more than responded to Jesus' invitation. Their involvement came out of a willingness to be with Jesus not predetermined list of leadership qualification.

Responsive not **OVER-COMMITTED** - Potential leaders are identified by their ability to set priorities and respond to unexpected opportunities to minister, while having the ability to discern which opportunities to take on. Much like Jesus did with the disciples, leaders need to assist potential leaders in setting an agenda and deciding which unexpected opportunities to answer. Often leaders who are willing can become over ambitious and get distracted by from the strategic opportunities before them.

Who in your ministry would be good choices to invest more time in? Why?