

A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

THE CROWDS FOLLOWED JESUS

Mark 3:7 “Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed. . .”

The news of Jesus’ ministry spread rapidly not only throughout Galilee but to regions far beyond to Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, Tyre and Sidon. This would mean that not only Jews were hearing about Him but also Gentiles. There was much ministry for Jesus to do, so He went to new regions to preach the Gospel and perform miracles. Jesus’ ministry attracted people like a magnet does steel.

The people came, saw Jesus and heard His message of repentance and God’s grace to the penitent. The Holy Spirit worked faith in some, not all, that heard Jesus’ message of God’s love and forgiveness for all. Verses seven through twelve illustrate the importance of spreading the message of God’s love for sinners. They bring to mind the parable of the seeds where some fell on the rocks and nothing happened, but some fell on good soil to germinate, grow and produce a crop. Wherever Jesus went some believed in Him and others rejected Him.

These six verses give you and all believers in Christ something to take to heart in regard to modern day church life. Jesus brought the Gospel and taught it to all who would listen. He created the Christian church with an open door welcoming all who will come and hear the Gospel proclaimed and offer the Sacraments to those who believe. Since the church is an open door, you and all of God’s people must speak out in every possible way to people of every ethnicity in as many languages as possible and to many people the Good News of God’s love for them in Christ Jesus their Lord.

You know and believe in Jesus because God placed you in the presence of someone who spoke to you about Jesus or brought you to the baptismal font. This was not by accident. This was God’s grace at work in your life to give you the gift of faith in Jesus, forgiveness of your sins and eternal life. By God’s grace people still come to hear and learn about Jesus the Savior of the world.

Prayer: Lord, draw us to You, that we might learn from You and through You be reconciled to Your heavenly Father for You have said that no one can come to Your Father except through You. In Your holy name. Amen.

Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy steps forever
And hasten on Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness
That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee That also we Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
And ever dwell Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.

Draw us to Thee Unceasingly, Into Thy kingdom take us;
Let us fore'er Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.
(LSB 701)