

PASTOR'S NOTES

The King, His Mission and Messengers Mark 3:7-19

“Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” (Mark 1:38 ESV)

The King remains faithful to his mission amid mounting pressures. (Mark 3:7-12)

In the previous passage, Jesus healed a man with a withered hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Rather than rejoicing that a suffering man had been restored on the Sabbath, the Pharisees went out and immediately began conspiring with the Herodians about how they might destroy Jesus.

Jesus was insightful to their evil ways. Matthew writes that he knew their plans and withdrew from there (Matthew 12:15).

Leaving that area, Jesus moved toward the sea with his disciples, and a great crowd followed him. They came from all over the surrounding regions. Most would have traveled on foot, over rugged terrain for several days or weeks. Imagine the expectation that would cause someone suffering from a debilitating disease to undertake such a journey. Such people would not be easily denied when they tried to touch Jesus.

We should recognize something about these crowds. They came because they had heard about Jesus' miraculous work. Jesus came to offer them something far greater. He came to address humanity's greatest problem: our sin and separation from God. He came to proclaim the kingdom of God and call sinners to repentance and faith.

Jesus not only faced crushing crowds, but he also faced demons. Mark tells us that whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, *“You are the Son of God.”*

Remarkably, the unclean spirits recognized him as the Son of God. However, the Lord would not allow unclean spirits to serve as his witnesses. Jesus would reveal his identity through his teaching, his miraculous works, and ultimately his death and resurrection. The demons would not determine how his identity was proclaimed.

Amid all the chaos, Jesus remains steadfast in the mission for which he came. He continues to demonstrate the compassion, power, and authority of the King as he advances the kingdom. We serve a King who is steadfast, undeterred, and unstoppable in providing redemption. He came to save sinners, and nothing would prevent him from accomplishing that mission.

The King calls and prepares others to carry his message and ministry. (Mark 3:13-19)

We've reached a turning point in Jesus' ministry. He sovereignly appoints twelve men who will have a unique role in his unfolding redemptive mission.

¹²In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. ¹³And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles. (Luke 6:12-13 ESV)

Keep in mind that Jesus was experiencing extraordinary success in his ministry. Vast crowds were coming from every direction. People were being healed, demons were being cast out, and word about him was spreading throughout the region. Yet none of that diminished the importance of prayer.

If the sinless Son of God, who lived in perfect union and fellowship with his Father, gave such priority to prayer, how much more should we?

We can become so occupied with ministry work that we neglect the prayer on which faithful ministry depends.

We all need those mountain places, those intentional times when we step away from life's noise and demands to seek the Lord in prayer.

My Prayer Mountain:

Now notice what follows Jesus' night of prayer. Mark says, *“And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him.”* (Mark 3:13)

Jesus deliberately summons men whom he will sovereignly appoint to a unique role in his redemptive mission. *“So that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach.”* (Mark 3:14) Yet before he sent them to proclaim his message, he spent time with them. They had much to learn!

This passage offers an important lesson. We cannot faithfully represent Christ while neglecting our fellowship with him. We need time in his Word and in prayer, steadily growing in our relationship with him.

Our service for Christ depends entirely on our walk and communion with him. Jesus said: *“Apart from me you can do nothing.”* (John 15:5) Like the apostles, we all need spiritual formation. More than doing things for Christ, we need to learn to be in Christ and walk with him.

While the religious leaders are plotting his killing and the crowds are pressing upon him, Jesus is preparing men who will carry his message to the world. He knows that his earthly ministry is moving toward the cross, yet his redemptive mission will not end there. He appointed apostles to proclaim the gospel. And following his death and resurrection, he commissioned his followers, including each of us, to make disciples of all nations.

May our lives and church be consumed with his message and mission.



MeadowBrook
CHURCH

Sunday, October 25, 2026 • Pastor Randy Gunter
mbchurch.com



The Forge: Father/Son Retreat
NOVEMBER 6-7
WorldSong Missions Place | Cook Springs
\$45 Per Child / \$90 Per Adult

REGISTRATION ENDS TODAY!
Register on the App or mbchurch.com



FLANNEL & Frills

Father/Daughter dance for girls from birth to fifth grade

TONIGHT * 5:30 PM * THEATER

Dress: Casual or Flannel for Fathers; Frilly & Girly for Daughters

RSVP ON THE APP OR MBCHURCH.COM

55+ ALABAMA BAPTIST SAINTS ALIVE ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

hosted by MeadowBrook

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:15 AM - 2:45 PM



Enjoy uplifting gospel music from Karen Peck and New River and faithful gospel preaching by Pastor Randy and Edwin Jenkins. There is a \$10 on-campus lunch option available, but you must register and purchase in advance if you plan to have lunch. **Register on the App or mbchurch.com**

GriefShare®

Surviving the Holidays

Sunday, NOV 1 * 2:00 PM * Conference Center

Facilitated by: Amelia Day {256-490-5479}
Jim & Deb Rhodes, Bob Sanford, Sue Chappell and Wayne Findley



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

TODAY

8:00-8:20 am - Sunday Morning Prayer Time - W105
9:00 & 10:30 am - Worship - Worship Center
9:00 & 10:30 am - Life Group
9:00-11:30 am - MeadowBrook Kids - Kids' Theater
9:00-11:30 am - MeadowBrook Preschool
4:00 pm - Global Missions Cohort - Round Room
5:30 pm - Flannel & Frills Father/Daughter Dance - Theater

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

10:00 am - GriefShare - Conference Center
4:30 pm - Men's Bible Study - Conference Center

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Abundant Life Choir singing at Cherry Creek Village
9:30 am - Tuesday Bible Study - Dining Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

5:00 pm - Fellowship Meal - Gym
(Chicken with Pasta, Broccoli, Salad, Garlic Bread or Salad with a Protein; Kids: Same or PB&J)
5:30 pm - Kids' Choir - Room 210
6:30 pm - Wednesday Men's Group & Women's Group, Preschool Ministry, KidStuf, Middle School Worship, High School Worship, Worship Ministry Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:15 AM - 55+ Alabama Baptist Saints Alive Conference

2026 DAILY BIBLE READING

October 25 - Acts 22	October 29 - Acts 26
October 26 - Acts 23	October 30 - Acts 27
October 27 - Acts 24	October 31 - Acts 28
October 28 - Acts 25	

life group

Life together for the Kingdom of God

Take the next step toward finding Christ-Centered community at MeadowBrook by visiting a Life Group.

For a listing of our classes, pick up a Life Group booklet at Guest Connections.

Welcome

If you are our **GUEST**, we'd like to **CONNECT** with you! Please fill out a **CONNECTION CARD** and stop by **GUEST CONNECTIONS** for a **FREE** gift!





SECRET SUPPER

Ladies' Night Out

THURSDAY, NOV 5
5:30-8:00 PM

REGISTER on the App or mbchurch.com

family DEDICATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8
9:00 & 10:30 AM

Register by Sunday, Nov 1 on the App or mbchurch.com



Thanksgiving Lunch

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 • 11:45 AM • GYM

\$10 Adults / \$5 Kids {12 & under}

Tickets available on the App or mbchurch.com

Prayer Needs

Cancer/Treatments: Kyle Hughes, Margie Martin, Robert Darnell, Aiden Beck, Larry Hill, Jamiye Ingram, Tiki Kemp, Anna Rae Wilson, Bonnie Pierce, Scott Watford, Sharon Tillison, Paul Roberts, Carol Collins, Loucille Edge, Sandra Haney

Ongoing Needs: Bebe Pruett, Chris Burnette, Lloyd & Diane Matthews, Susan Mize, Lola-Ruth Adams, Archie Wade, Landon Cunningham, Denise Dover, Peggy Brizendine, Kathy Thompson, Jimmy & Delores Thompson, Lavelle Ogletree, Danny Maddox, Robin Roberts, Ron Crawford, Phil Causey, Janet Maise, Rita Tipton, David Draper, Reese Robinson, Charlotte Taylor, Lindsey Rakestraw, Laura Hoge, Gary Alexander, Karen Ragan, Linda Roy, Joan Henry, Tim Davis, Gerry Grant, Linda Dees, Dorothy Hand, Kenny Cahall, Larry Parker, Sandra & Wendell Qualls, Aiden Barron

- Matt Fike & family in the loss of his father, Ivan Fike
- Todd Hindsman & family in the loss of his father, David Hindsman
- Sebastian Romano - recovering from shoulder surgery
- John Lopez - Gadsden Regional

- Kathy Thompson - recovering from a procedure
- Donald Garris - Encompass Rehab