

# PUT IT INTO PRACTICE. ✓

**Ice Breaker:** Which artists would be on your top 3 music playlist?

**Read:** Mark 2:13–17, 2:1–4, 1:40–43, 8:7–8, 1:16–18, 8:34–37; John 6:26

## Discussion Questions:

- Opening Thoughts
  - Why do you think Jesus often attracted large crowds but ended up with relatively few committed disciples?
  - In what ways can it be easier to blend into the “crowd” than to truly follow Jesus?
- Jesus Taught Crowds (Mark 2:13-17)
  - What does this passage reveal about what kind of people Jesus invites into a relationship with Him?
  - Why do you think eating with sinners was so offensive to the religious leaders?
  - How does Jesus’ example challenge the way we sometimes draw lines between who “belongs” and who doesn’t?
- Jesus Blessed Crowds (Mark 2:1-4, 8:7-8, 1:40-43; John 6:26)
  - Which of these crowd encounters resonates most with you, and why?
- Why do you think Jesus consistently met physical needs while also pointing to deeper spiritual needs?
  - In John 6:26, Jesus confronts the crowd’s motives. What do you think He would say about our reasons for seeking Him today?
  - How can we tell the difference between seeking Jesus for what He gives and seeking Him for who He is?
  - Have you ever experienced a moment when Jesus met a need but also invited you to something deeper?
- Jesus Calls People Out of the Crowd (Mark 1:16-18, Mark 2)
  - Why do you think Jesus often chose ordinary, overlooked, or broken people?
  - What “crowd” or comfort zone might Jesus be calling you to step out of?
- Closing Thoughts (Mark 8:34-37)
  - What does it mean, practically, to “deny yourself” in today’s culture?
  - Which of these transitions do you find most challenging right now?
    - Curious → Convicted
    - Casual → Consecrated
    - Comfortable → Courageous
    - Crowd Pleasers → Christ Followers
- What is one concrete step you can take this week to move “beyond the crowd” and into a deeper relationship with Jesus?

