The Crowds

Read Mark 3:7-12

- **7** Jesus went out to the lake with his disciples, and a large crowd followed him. They came from all over Galilee, Judea,
- **8** Jerusalem, Idumea, from east of the Jordan River, and even from as far north as Tyre and Sidon. The news about his miracles had spread far and wide, and vast numbers of people came to see him.
- **9** Jesus instructed his disciples to have a boat ready so the crowd would not crush him.
- **10** He had healed many people that day, so all the sick people eagerly pushed forward to touch him.
- **11** And whenever those possessed by evil spirits caught sight of him, the spirits would throw them to the ground in front of him shrieking, "You are the Son of God!"
- **12** But Jesus sternly commanded the spirits not to reveal who he was.

Why did Jesus go off by Himself with the disciples (v. 7)? He probably wanted some time alone with His disciples to teach them. And He might have been tired of being around people all day.

What did the people do (vv. 7-8)? They came from everywhere and they followed Him wherever He went.

Why were they following Jesus? They wanted to see Him do more miracles. Or maybe they wanted Him to heal some of them.

Why did Jesus get in a small boat (v. 9)? To keep the crowd from getting too close to Him.

Why were the people trying to get close to Jesus (v. 10)? They wanted to be healed from their diseases.

What did the demons or evil spirits do when they saw Jesus (v. 11)? They fell down in front of Him and yelled out who He was. They knew He was the Son of God.

What did Jesus tell them not to do (v. 12)? Don't tell anyone who I am.

Why didn't Jesus want the demons to tell the people who He was? Jesus wanted to tell the people Himself who He was. He didn't want the demons to tell the people. Plus, it wasn't the right time to tell everybody who He was.

When would be the right time to tell the world who He was? When Jesus made His "Triumphal Entry" into Jerusalem on His way to the Cross. At that point, it would be okay for the people to worship Him openly.