Village Base Camp

We gather to be with Jesus. We go to make Jesus known.

BIG IDEA

Getting to base camp is worth celebrating, but it is not the end of the journey. Jesus gathers us to be with Him and sends us to share His love with others.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Village Church celebrates its new gathering place after months of faithful work. Like climbers reaching Everest Base Camp, the church has reached a meaningful milestone that also prepares it for what comes next. In Mark 3, Jesus calls the twelve both **to be with Him** and **to be sent out**. Church is a place to worship, rest, learn, pray, and be renewed—not simply a destination. From here, believers carry the love of Jesus into homes, schools, workplaces, and relationships. Prayer must fuel the next stage of the mission.

READ TOGETHER

Mark 3:13–15 (Jesus calls and sends the twelve) • **Mark 11:17** (a house of prayer)

ICEBREAKER — CHOOSE ONE

- What is something you worked hard to prepare for, only to discover the real work was just beginning?
- What is a milestone you have celebrated that turned out to be the start of a new chapter?

TALK IT THROUGH

1. What stands out to you about the comparison between our new church home and Everest Base Camp?
If needed: What should we celebrate—and what must we not forget?

2. In Mark 3:13–15, why do you think Jesus calls the twelve both to be with Him and to be sent out?
If needed: What happens when we emphasize one purpose but neglect the other?

3. What helps you genuinely “be with Jesus” and find spiritual renewal?
If needed: Where do you feel depleted or in need of rest?

4. Where has Jesus already placed you among people who may need His love?
If needed: Think about home, work, school, friendships, or neighbors.

5. What could “making Jesus known” look like in an ordinary interaction this week?
If needed: Consider listening, kindness, an invitation, an apology, or prayer.

6. What would change if prayer truly became the fuel for our next chapter?
If needed: How can our group help make Village a house of prayer?

THIS WEEK’S CHALLENGE

Be with Jesus: Set aside intentional time to pray and listen. **Be sent by Jesus:** Choose one person to encourage, serve, or pray with. Come ready to share what happened.

Village Base Camp

Facilitator notes • Mark 3:13–15; Mark 11:17

A SIMPLE 60-MINUTE RHYTHM

Connect (10 min): Welcome everyone; use one icebreaker.
Read (10 min): Read Mark 3:13–15 and Mark 11:17 aloud; notice the two purposes in Mark 3.
Discuss (30 min): Work through the six questions, allowing room for stories and reflection.
Respond (10 min): Invite each person to name one way to be with Jesus and one way to be sent this week; pray together.

LEAD THE CONVERSATION

Questions 1–2: Affirm the effort and gratitude surrounding the new building, then redirect toward mission. Ask the group to name the two verbs in Mark 3: *be with* and *send out*. They belong together.

Questions 3–4: Make room for people who are tired or carrying burdens. Avoid turning spiritual renewal into another task. Emphasize that people can receive from Jesus before they serve others.

Questions 5–6: Invite specific, realistic examples. The sermon describes listening, offering prayer, kindness, asking forgiveness, and inviting others. Connect these everyday actions to a sustained dependence on prayer.

HELPFUL FOLLOW-UPS

• Can you share a specific example?

• What might make that difficult—and what could help?

• How does this connect to Jesus' invitation in Mark 3?

• What is one small step you could take before we meet again?

KEEP THE MAIN THING CLEAR

Celebrate without settling. The building is a gift and a launching point, not the mission itself.
Gather and go. Being with Jesus and being sent by Him are complementary, not competing, callings.
Pray first. Prayer is not merely preparation for ministry; it is central to the church's life and dependence on God.

CLOSING PRAYER

Thank God for His faithfulness in bringing Village to this moment. Ask Him to renew those who are weary, prepare the church to welcome and love others, and give each person courage to serve where they are already placed. Pray that Village will be known as a house of prayer.

BEFORE GROUP

Read Mark 3:13–15 and Mark 11:17. Review the six questions; choose one icebreaker. Think of one personal example of gathering for renewal and going out to serve. Leave enough time for prayer and specific next steps.