

Aren't you glad you're here and not Chicago's O'Hare Airport? It is expected to be the busiest airport in the country today as people return home from Thanksgiving celebrations with family and friends. As we speak, many are probably wondering if it was worth it to brave Midwestern cold, storms, flight delays and cancellations. There will be long lines and crowds everywhere. Seasoned travelers will be looking for a place to stretch out and charge their phones and tablets. Like I said, aren't you glad you are here, away from the madding crowd?

Jesus understood the press of the crowd:

***The Crowd***

***A Necessity to Escape***

***Chosen to be With Him***

## Personal Application and Interaction

1. If your Bible has maps, check out the regions from which Jesus was drawing huge crowds (Tyre and Sidon, regions of Upper and Lower Galilee, Jerusalem, the regions across the Jordan and Idumea). What do you imagine Jesus and His followers were thinking as they were seriously “crushed by the crowds”?
2. Put yourself in the picture. Jesus was preaching and healing all sorts of people with horrible diseases, conditions and demon possessions. You’ve joined the crowd of more than 10,000. Were they more interested in His words or His miracles? What’s keeping you in that mix?
3. Why did Jesus instruct His disciples to prepare a “small boat”? How would you describe the risk Jesus was facing?
4. Kent Hughes describes “a tragic irony” as he writes, “...the demons knew that Jesus was the son of God, but the multitudes thought of him only as a miracle worker whom they could use for their selfish ends.” Think about the times you’ve been more interested in what you could get out of Jesus than what He wanted you to get out of your situation.
5. What do you think God wants you learn from these words, “Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to Him those He wanted, and they came to Him”?



## Navigating the Crush

*Mark 3:7-19*

Pastor John  
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