



2010 Lenten Meditations

Written by Parishioners of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral / Compiled by The Daughters of the Holy Cross

Masthead courtesy of Susan Craig

Monday, March 1 **Mark 3:1-19a**

The area from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and the region around Tyre and Sidon is approximately 90 miles long and 30 miles wide. Many in this crowd traveled 50 miles or so. That's a long distance to walk (without hiking boots or an ergonomically designed backpack) over rough, mountainous terrain. Many were sick or disabled. And yet they came. They had heard of this man Jesus and His power to heal. They had heard that demons called Him the Son of God. They came because they trusted and hoped in Jesus.

The crowd was so great that Jesus spoke from a boat to avoid being crushed by people who simply wanted to touch Him, who were desperate for healing. This was a mob scene. It could have become violent at any time.

Out of so many, Jesus picked twelve, whom he sent out to proclaim the message, and to have authority to cast out demons. These twelve had just seen the massive crowd and the danger such a task might put them in. They may have been excited, and proud of being chosen, but they must have been scared. Each must have asked himself "Am I brave enough to do this?"; "Am I strong enough?"; "Do I have the endurance?"; "Am I good enough?"

The twelve did as asked, because they trusted Jesus, and hoped to be given the strength, endurance, and courage to carry out the tasks He gave them. We can hope to increase our trust in Jesus during this Lent, as we follow Him again through Good Friday into Easter.

Karen McLeod

Karen is retired from DHEC, and enjoys reading, helping out in the bookstore, learning pottery, and sharing life with her friends. She has 2 cats, Peaches and Quark, who make sure that she takes care of the important stuff (them).