

Jesus' Mother and Brothers - Mark 3:31-35

Topics: Family, God's Will, Loyalty, Obedience, Parents, Relationships, Sacrifice

Open It

- * 1. What is one of your favorite childhood memories of your mother?
- 2. With whom do you feel a kindred spirit? Why?
- 3. What did you and your siblings fight about when you were in elementary school?

Explore It

- 4. What was the setting of this story? (3:31-32)
- * 5. Who wanted to see Jesus? Why? (3:31-32)
- 6. Why did Jesus' mother and brothers go to a particular house? (3:31-32)
- 7. How did Jesus' family summon Him? (3:31-32)
- 8. Who told Jesus of His family's request? (3:32)
- * 9. What rhetorical question did Jesus ask? Why? (3:33)
- * 10. How did Jesus respond to the request by His mother and brothers? (3:33-34)
- 11. Whom did Jesus designate as His "family"? (3:34)
- 12. What unique name is given to "whoever does God's will"? (3:35)
- 13. When did Jesus' mother and brothers get to see Him? (3:33-35)

Get It

- 14. How do you think Jesus' mother and brothers responded to His actions in this story?
- 15. What feelings do you think Jesus had toward His family?
- 16. How do you interpret Jesus' actions toward His family?
- 17. What does this account tell you about Jesus' priorities?
- * 18. In what way does doing God's will make a person Christ's brother or sister?
- 19. How has your commitment to Christ affected your relationship with your family?
- * 20. Why is it important for us to place even our families under the rule and place of Christ?
- 21. In light of this passage, how should Christians relate to one another?
- 22. How should you relate to members of your family who are not Christians?
- 23. When has your commitment to Christ caused conflict in your family?
- 24. How do you think God wants you to respond to conflict situations in your family?
- 25. How can a person be sure to be included in the family of God?
- 26. What do Jesus' actions in this episode tell you about what your priorities in life should be?

Apply It

- * 27. What could you do or say to help your family understand your faith in Christ?
- 28. In what areas of your work should your behavior reflect a greater kinship with Christ? How?
- 29. What can you do each day to cultivate a kindred spirit with Christ?