



Scripture

³¹And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him.

³²And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.”³³ And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?”³⁴ And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers!³⁵ For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.” (Mark 3:31-35 ESV)

Outline

Big Idea: We are brought into the family of God by faith in Jesus Christ leading to humble obedience.

Point 1. God's family is not by descent or relationship (vv31-33)

Point 2. God's family is not by those attracted to Jesus for what he does (vv 32, 34)

Point 3. God's family is revealed by doing the will of God (v35)

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: What is one specific step you can take this week to more fully live as a member of God's family?

Point 1: God's family is not by descent or relationship

- Jesus makes a surprising statement about his mother and brothers. Why might this have been shocking to his listeners?
- What does this passage tell us about how we become part of God's family? Is it based on who we *know* or *who we are related to*?
- In our culture, family ties are often highly valued. How does Jesus' statement challenge our understanding of family?

Point 2: God's family is not by those attracted to Jesus or what he does

- Many people were drawn to Jesus because of his miracles and teachings. Does this mean they were automatically part of his family? Why or why not?
- What's the difference between being *attracted* to Jesus and truly *belonging* to him?
- Can we be "fans" of Jesus without being his followers? What does true following require?

Point 3: God's family is revealed by doing the will of God

- What does it mean to "do the will of God"? Is it just about following rules, or is there more to it?
- How does humble obedience connect to doing God's will?
- This passage emphasizes *doing* the will of God. How does this emphasis on action relate to the idea of faith? Is it possible to have faith without action?

Your Prayer

Write out a three-sentence prayer based off this passage.