

The Family of Jesus

Discussion Questions for Mark 3:31-35

Open It

What is one of your favorite childhood memories of your mother?

With whom do you feel a kindred spirit? Why?

What did you and your siblings fight about when you were in elementary school?

Explore It

What was the setting of this story? (3:31-32)

Who wanted to see Jesus? Why? (3:31-32)

Why did Jesus' mother and brothers go to a particular house? (3:31-32)

How did Jesus' family summon Him? (3:31-32)

Who told Jesus of His family's request? (3:32)

What rhetorical question did Jesus ask? Why? (3:33)

How did Jesus respond to the request by His mother and brothers? (3:33-34)

Whom did Jesus designate as His "family"? (3:34)

What unique name is given to "whoever does God's will"? (3:35)

When did Jesus' mother and brothers get to see Him? (3:33-35)

Get It

How do you think Jesus' mother and brothers responded to His actions in this story?

What feelings do you think Jesus had toward His family?

How do you interpret Jesus' actions toward His family?

What does this account tell you about Jesus' priorities?

In what way does doing God's will make a person Christ's brother or sister?

How has your commitment to Christ affected your relationship with your family?

Why is it important for us to place even our families under the rule and place of Christ?

In light of this passage, how should Christians relate to one another?

How should you relate to members of your family who are not Christians?

When has your commitment to Christ caused conflict in your family?

How do you think God wants you to respond to conflict situations in your family?

How can a person be sure to be included in the family of God?

What do Jesus' actions in this episode tell you about what your priorities in life should be?

Apply It

What could you do or say to help your family understand your faith in Christ? In what areas of your work should your behavior reflect a greater kinship with Christ? How?