

Sermon Notes

For the Love of Family and God

Mark 3:20-21, 31-35

Pastor Jeff Hinds

1. God's people are to seek to love one's immediate family – even if one's immediate family opposes one's faith (Mark 7:9-13). However, Jesus modelled both loving one's immediate family while never allowing family members to mitigate against serving the Lord or obeying His truths (Mark 3:31-35).
2. God's people should supplement (not replace) unbelieving family members with a support group of God-seeking friends (Mark 3:31-35).
3. God's people should model Christ, share Christ, but not smother loved one's with one's faith. Jesus did this with His siblings, and they eventually came to embrace Him as Savior and Lord (Acts 1:12-14; Galatians 1:19; I Corinthians 9:5).

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CONNECT:

- Do you have family members for whom you pray to come to know Jesus?

GROW:

- Read Mark 3:20-21, 31-35. How would you describe the way Jesus' family viewed Him? How did Jesus view His family?
- How do your unbelieving family members view you when they consider your Christian faith? How do you handle this?
- What further things do we learn about Jesus' siblings from Mark 6:3 and John 7:5?
- What does Jesus' response from Mark 3:31-35 teach us about the church (see also Proverbs 18:24, Psalm 27:7-10 and Matthew 19:27-30)? How will this help someone who is despised or rejected by their own family? Any personal experience with this?
- From Mark 3:31-35, are you part of Jesus' family? How do you know?
- Is there someone in the church whom you can befriend and be a brother or sister to?
- What awesome thing do we learn about Jesus' family from Acts 1:12-14? Does this encourage you? Please explain.
- What can you learn about a wise way to share the gospel with your loved ones (see 1 Peter 3:8-9, 13-17 and 1 Corinthians 3:6-7)?

GO:

- What steps might you need to take to line your life up with the verses from 1 Peter 3?
- Who will you reach out to in order to be the brother or sister he/she needs?