

## Belonging to Jesus' Family

Mark 3:20-21, 31-34

### I. Living with the Disapproval of our natural family (Mark 3:20-21)

- A. Scene 1 – Jesus' natural family heard about Jesus' hectic ministry schedule and intended to stop Him.
- B. Context: Jesus' family couldn't understand because they didn't yet believe in Him (John 7:3-5; Acts 1:14).

#### Principles

1. Our natural family may be well-intentioned when they criticize our devotion to God as believers (Mark 3:21).
2. Our natural family may sometimes think we're crazy when we do God's will (Psalm 69:7-9).
3. When our natural family does not understand our devotion to God, we can learn to rest in the approval of God and our spiritual family (Psalm 27:10).

### II. Appreciating the Priority of our spiritual family (Mark 3:31-34)

- A. Scene 2 – Jesus' family arrives and asks for Him while He is teaching his disciples, but Jesus comments that His disciples are spiritual family
- B. Main Point: Jesus was saying that spiritual family will sometimes supercede human family in priority.

#### Misapplications

1. Jesus is not teaching that our natural family is unimportant.
2. Jesus is not teaching disrespect of our natural family (Mark 7:10) or rejection of a parent's authority (Luke 2:51).
3. Jesus is not teaching us to neglect our family's needs for the sake of "ministry." (Mark 7:11-13; 1 Timothy 5:8).

#### Principles

1. Spiritual unity in Christ is even stronger than human family ties because it is eternal (John 1:12-13; Galatians 3:26).
2. Sometimes we cannot avoid disappointing relatives when we do what God wants us to do (Acts 5:29).