

He Said What Part 4

Who Is My Mother And Brothers?

Mark 3:31-35, Matthew 12:46-50

Memory Verses: Mark 3:35

MANUSCRIPT

Introduction (Me, We, & the Struggle)

I don't know if I've ever told you this story before, but it's not a story I'm particularly proud of. When I was 15 I said something I shouldn't have said. My mom had just picked me, my brother, and one of our friends up from school. Jesse, my brother was in the passenger seat, and me and my friend were in the back seat with me behind my mom. I can't remember what exactly I wanted to do, but I asked my mom if I could go do something later on that day and she said no and I proceeded to say – I still can't believe these words came out of my mouth – but I called my mom, in front of my friend, a witch; I called her a Witch! And my friend was like; “he said what?” And I kid you not, I don't know how she did it, but with one hand on the wheel she wrapped her other hand around to the back seat like it was made of rubber to where I was sitting and she (rightly so I might add) slapped me across the face. It was a mistake! A really really big mistake!

Let me ask you something; have you ever said something that you wish you hadn't said. You know, like ask a woman “when the baby's due” and she's not pregnant. Or call your momma a witch? You know the words are coming out but even as they are coming out you are like... nooooooooooooo! Listen, here's the difference between us and Jesus. Jesus says some pretty crazy things but he always means to say them and he never regrets them. Listen, Jesus said; hate your momma, and he meant it. He said, I'm not bringing peace, I'm bringing the pain... and he wasn't joking!

And get this, one time Jesus was doing his thing and his Mom came to visit him and.. with his momma standing right there and everyone telling him, “Hey Jesus, your momma is here.” He said..... “who?” “Who is my mother and my brothers?” For real, check it out. Look at [Mark 3:31-35](#). Now, if I didn't know better I would think Jesus was acting the fool! You don't disrespect your momma by saying, “who is my momma, when she's right there.” But again, Jesus didn't mess up. He meant every word he was saying because again he was trying to teach us something by shocking our ears. Sometimes you got to shock them ears so people can hear.

So what exactly in the world did Jesus mean when he said, “who is my mother and my brothers?” Well, let's start by what he didn't mean. He didn't mean that his mother, Mary, was not his earthly mother. He

didn't mean that he didn't love her and that he didn't respect her and treat her like any good son should. Jesus loved his momma. It didn't mean he had some beef with his brothers or that there was a domestic issue that needed to be addressed. Jesus loved his brothers; most of which followed Him in his ministry. So what did he mean?

He meant that while it was clear that he had an earthly family that he loved and cared for, the family that matters the most is spiritual family! Jesus isn't minimizing the importance of family relationships; rather, He is emphasizing that having a right relationship with God is more important. While you can't control which family you are born into, each of us must make a choice to be born again into the family of God. That's his point **Blood may be thicker than water, but spirit outlasts blood!** Many of us have family who are not our spiritual family. The cold hard fact is that unless they accept Christ, unless they submit to the will of God, your relationship with them will not extend beyond this world. But, for all who have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior, your relationship with them will last forever. So what really matters? One, those who are your spiritual family and two, doing everything you can to bring those who aren't into the family! The focus this morning is simple; **We should celebrate our spiritual family by increasing our spiritual family!**

Teaching (Expand on the Problem, God)

The First thing we need to recognize is that we should **Celebrate Our Spiritual Family Cause They Get Us**. In order to get a full picture of why Jesus' physical family was looking for him, we have to go back a couple verses to [Mark 3:20-21](#). Jesus, a carpenter's kid from the backwoods of Nazareth who at one point was just a normal polite guy has now been casting out demons and healing the sick and everywhere he goes people are claiming he is the Messiah. Also, the pharisees are spreading false accusations that Jesus is demon possessed. As you can understand, this is a little shocking to his brothers who have grown up with him and his mother who raised him. I'm sure they were like, nah... this isn't our Jesus. Our Jesus doesn't hangout with sinners. Our Jesus isn't demon possessed. I don't think our Jesus can heal people and tell them to get up and walk and that their sins are forgiven. So out of concern for their brother / son they show up with some food for a family dinner. The problem is that there is such a crowd there that they can't even have a meal together. They look at the situation and they think... man this is crazy. The fact that these people are clamoring over Jesus is crazy. The fact that the pharisees are accusing him of such things is crazy. The fact that Jesus isn't recognizing them is crazy. Maybe... Jesus is acting crazy! So they show up and say, “we need to speak to Jesus, he's not thinking straight; he's out of his mind.”

Maybe that's how it happened, maybe not, but if it was, I'm sure you can relate. At one point in your life, you've uttered the statement that all kids

say of their family, "they just don't get me." At some point every person thinks their family thinks that they are crazy and at some point they are probably a little right. Why? Cause physical families always struggle to see who you are beyond who they want you to be. I want Canaan to be respectful. I want Pierson to behave. I want them to be men people look up to and are influenced by. **But bruh, they just want to wear dope fit, feel gucci, have mad riz, talk about the tea to see who's salty ,and laugh at their extra friends til they are dead, no cap!** And they think I don't get them. They may be right.

That's why the church is so great, that's why the family of God is so great. It's a place where people get you. Spiritually speaking of course. You see, this world will never get who you are as a Christian unless they have a Christian worldview. As a believer, you can't see what I see unless you see with eyes of faith. To the world we are crazy. To the world we believe in a giant spaghetti monster in the sky who sometimes grants wishes to people. We believe crazy thinks like; a man who walked on water, fed the 5000, healed the lame and sick, and came back from the dead. We believe in an archaic book that tells us all the secrets of this life and the life beyond. We are freaking loonies to the lost. But here, with our spiritual family, we are understood. We are with like minded crazies who simply get it. The world may think we are crazy. Our families may even think we are crazy. But... **we can always find safety in the church because the family of God understands who we are and agrees with what we believe. We should celebrate our spiritual family by increasing our spiritual family.**

Secondly we should... **Increase Our Spiritual Family To Grow Them.** Again, Jesus is not making a statement about his physical family as much as he is about the importance of having an eternal, spiritual family. Look at **Matthew 12:46-50** and **Luke 8:19-21**, two parallel passages. The ending is the same. Only those who do the will of my father in heaven can be a part of my real family. A couple of things. First, you are not saved by works. We always have to make this disclaimer because surely someone will read this and say, well there it is, all I have to do is follow God's will and I will be saved. No, you are saved by grace and faith which is a gift so that you cannot boast of having earned it. Simple as that. But, as we always say, faith without works is dead. Works don't save you but you aren't saved if you don't have works.

It is simple. The will of the father is that you would surrender your life to him and confess him as your Lord and savior and repent of your sins. Secondly, God's will is that you would live your life according to his commands as outlined in his Word. This is the greatest evidence we have that what you say you believe is real. So what is Jesus doing when he is saying, if you are a believer then you are my family. He's enticing

the lost to be jealous for a relationship with him and his church. The world should simply look at what we have and want it. This is real family and you can be a part of it. Here we take care of each other. Here if you are in need we won't let you go hungry or homeless. Here, your burdens become our burdens. Here we won't let you fall. Here, we will build you up and encourage you and hold you up when you can't hold yourself up. And Jesus is also telling them how to get in. He's evangelizing. He's giving the altar call. "You see what we have. You want it? Then do the will of my father and be saved and confess me as your Lord. And you're in." **Jesus wants every family to be a part of his family. Jesus wants every home to be a spiritually blessed home.** And this is where you come in. As Jesus did, you are called to invite people into the family. You are to bless them by giving them a new family. And you are to bless your church by helping them grow with more spiritual brothers and sisters. Jesus wants more spiritual mothers and brothers because he knows the more the merrier. A blessed church is a growing church. **We should celebrate our spiritual family by increasing our spiritual family.**

Application

Wouldn't it be great if we had a simple program that encouraged us and reminded us to pray for, care for, and share the Gospel with our neighbors as to see them become a part of the family of God? Wouldn't that be awesome? What if that same program would send us reminders to pray for our neighbors that they would come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior? And what if that same program could be used by the Pastor to see if we were meeting our goals or if we were slacking. Every church wants ways to track whether they are being effective or not. This program does that. And of course its called, Bless Every Home. Why did Jesus say who is my mother and brothers? Because he wanted to bless not just his home... he wanted to bless every home by making every home a part of the family of God. Would you commit to Bless Every Home?

Conclusion

Over the past 3 years we've been doing this program we've prayed for over 300 households multiple times, sometimes as many as 10 times. Some of us have even gone the next step by preparing cookies at Christmas and passing them out and getting to know our neighbors. And we've moved from praying to caring for our neighbors too. Some of us have actually had the opportunity to share the Gospel with our neighbors. Wherever you are, praying, caring, or sharing... would you commit this new year to taking it to the next level and Blessing Every Home in your neighborhood.