

**Mark's Gospel—Jesus' True Identity Reveals the
Magnitude of His Sacrifice**

10:30 Morning Worship Service:

Mark 3:20-35

Family Loyalties and the Kingdom of God

Jesus Came to Set His House in Order.

- 1. Jesus' Earthly Family Serves as a Foil (20-21, 31-35).**
- 2. Jesus Refutes His Accusers (22-30).**
- 3. Satan's Family Follows His Deceitful Ways (28-30).**
- 4. God's Family Is All About Doing His Will (35).**

Conclusion: The identity of Jesus is closely tied to His mission. In this passage His role of elder brother is prominent as He contrasts the loving Family of God who delights to do His will with the hateful family of Satan who delights to slander Jesus. Praise be to God! Our elder brother has bound the strong man and come to deliver us from His capture. Let us delight in doing the will of our Loving Father!

Ephesians 2:19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and *members of the household of God*, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do *your father's desires*. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, *he speaks out of his own character*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Mark 8:31-33

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "*Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.*"

Matthew 12:31-37

Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³² And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

³³ "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. ³⁴ You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? *For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* ³⁵ The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. ³⁶ I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, ³⁷ for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

John 15:9-11

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

What if you were snatched from your own family and taken captive to belong to another? Jesus uses this reality (not hypothetical) to contrast life in God's family with Satan's counterfeit one.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Mark 3:20-35; 8:31-33; Ephesians 2:19-22; Matthew 12:31-37; John 8:44; 15:9-11; Psalm 68:4-6.** DISCUSS What characterizes Satan's family? What characterizes God's family? Why? How? Whose family are you in? SERVE someone in need. MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12.** PRAY "Jesus, You're our elder brother who came to restore our family. Thank You for rescuing us. Enable us to live *as becomes children of God.*"

Sunday Evening

Young Adult Fellowship meets at **6pm** in the church library (back door).

Monday

READ **Mark 3:20-35; Ephesians 2:19-22.** DISCUSS What does it mean for God to "rejoice over you" according to the Bible? What difference does that make in your life? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12.** PRAY, "Father God, we praise You for restoring us to Your family. Thank You for rescuing us from Satan's influence and giving us Your Spirit. Please enable us to walk in Your holy ways."

Tuesday

READ **Mark 3:20-35; 8:31-33; John 8:44; Psalm 68:4-6.** DISCUSS Why does Jesus associate scribes and his own disciple with Satan? How are they acting according to Satan's "family nature" in these passages? How are you acting like Christ our elder brother? SERVE by considering someone else's needs *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12.** PRAY, "Jesus, we long to be like You fully in joyfully obeying our Father together. Teach us through Your Spirit to think, speak, and act as is fitting for co-heirs together with You."

Wednesday

READ **Mark 3:20-35; John 15:9-11; Deuteronomy 10:12-22**. DISCUSS Jesus demonstrates His love for the Father through His joyful obedience. He came to free us to do the same. What specific ways do you need to obey Him today? SERVE by *caring about someone else* more than yourself! MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12**. PRAY, “Lord, we want to abide in Your love and so keep Your commandments. Enable us to do this.”

Thursday

READ **Mark 3:20-35; Matthew 12:31-37; Psalm 68:4-6**. DISCUSS What fruit of the Spirit is evident in your life? How is your relationship with Christ evident? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12**. PRAY, “Lord, please forgive our carelessness with our tongues. Enable us to *speak the truth in love* as You would have your children do.”

Friday

READ **Mark 3:20-35; 8:31-33; Ephesians 2:19-22; Matthew 12:31-37; John 8:44; 15:9-11; Psalm 68:4-6**. DISCUSS What has the Holy Spirit been teaching you *this week through these passages*? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 2:10-12**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *be transformed together by God’s Word through Mark*.

Saturday

PREPARE for *gathered worship tomorrow*. READ **Mark 4:1-41**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *worship service @ 10:30*. Ask Jesus to *reveal Himself to us in His Word by His Spirit*.

Meditate on Hebrews 2:10-12

For it was fitting that [Jesus], for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”