

LIFEgroups

Open

Go around and let everyone answer.

What is one responsibility that comes with being part of a family?

DIG

Why do you think we value the concept of family so much?

How are some ways our families shape who we are?

Read: Matthew 12.46-49

In this passage, Jesus takes a statement about His earthly family and turns it into a teaching about His spiritual family.

What do you think was implied when the person told Jesus His mother and brothers were waiting to speak with Him?

What do you think the listeners may have thought about Jesus' response?

What does Jesus' response say about His view of family?

Read: Matthew 12.50

Rather than acknowledging a shared bloodline as the basis for family, Jesus offers something else.

Why do you think Jesus makes obedience to God's will the criteria for being family?

How does seeing other disciples as family impact our responsibilities as part of that family?

APPLY

How have you specifically been blessed by being a part of God's family?

Close with a time of prayer and thanksgiving for God's family.

Leader Notes

About This Guide

This week's guide comes the current lesson in a series from the Gospel of Matthew. This series focuses on Matthew's message of establishing that Jesus is King over all.

Big Idea

We place a lot of weight on our physical relationships and earthly family connections. But God wants us to recognize the importance of our spiritual relationships as well.

Reaching Out

Our LIFE Groups are a great place to pour out the love we share into the lives of others. We can't keep this love and community to ourselves. Who do you know that might benefit from being part of your group? Share those names, pray for them, and ask God to give you the courage to talk to them about visiting your group.