



OPEN

Go around and let everyone answer...

Who, not related to you, has been like a spiritual mother to you and why?

DIG

What makes someone "family?"

What is unique about our family relationships among all others?

Read Mark 3.31-35

Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

In this passage, Jesus surprises the listeners with an unexpected teaching about family.

What do you think may have been the people's initial response to hearing His words?

How would you have felt being told you are family to Jesus?

It might seem like Jesus is slighting His "family" through His declaration.

How does Jesus's statement about who is family actually honor them?

According to Jesus' definition of family, other faithful followers are just as authentic a family as our related one.

How does our Christian family mirror the same kind of relationships we have with our earthly families?

APPLY

We are blessed to have a family in Christ and we have a responsibility to be spiritual mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters to each other.

In what way could you deepen your family role with others in the faith?

Close in a time of prayer.

-KTW

Leaders

Big Idea

This discussion guide is based on a passage from Mark that reminds us of the true family ties we have in Christ.

Special Considerations

You may likely be conducting your LIFE Group meetings via video in an online setting during this time. While it might feel less personal than an in-home meeting, this could actually be a great time for your group to renew its concern for each other by making special efforts to connect throughout the week. Consider sending out prayer requests, well-wishes, or updated via text or email during the week. Likewise, your group might consider adding a brief, mid-week video conference just to pray and check in.

Group Discussion Reminder

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.