

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Words, Works + Ways - Part 3

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Introduction

Jesus was intentional and strategic in carrying out his mission. He did not go out by himself. He called twelve people as disciples – his team – and trained them so they could continue his work. The disciples, then, also followed the ways of Jesus. They intentionally and strategically created extended family from house to house, developing a sense of belonging and connection as family in Christ.

Bible Passage

Mark 3:31-34

Discussion

1. What do you see in the way Jesus talked about his family? Now read verses 20-21. How did Jesus handle the situation? Would you handle it differently?
2. Read verse 35. What is your understanding of the word 'family'? What might a family that expands beyond blood relatives and spouses look like to you?
3. As a disciple of Jesus, what are the advantages of having a 'family' around you? What could be the challenges?
4. Read Mark 4:34. Why did Jesus intentionally teach in parables for the crowd but not for His disciples? Why was it important for Jesus to untie the knots for his disciples?
5. Read Ephesians 4:29. Having difficult conversations is important when we have people around us to untie our knots. Have you ever experienced a difficult conversation? What was the outcome?
6. What stops you from having a difficult conversation? Why?

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Respond

The ways of Jesus demonstrate that we can't do this faith journey alone. We need vulnerability, intentionality, and accountability with other people to help us become obedient. These people know your sins and temptations, and they help you to navigate through them. Who is one person in your life today that can help you hear Jesus and who leads you to obedience? Who is one person that you can journey with in this way too? Make a commitment to contact them this week.

Reading Plan:

Part 2 – Read and reread Mark 3