

## Exegetical Notes, Mark 3:31-35

### Family

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### Mark 3:31-35

#### Verse 31

*Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him.*

- Jesus' mother and his brothers have been watching him. Seeing him and hearing him, they have come to the conclusion that he is crazy. See Mark 3:20-21. Their intention is to "take charge of him." They assume that he needs their protection because he has gone out of his mind.
- Apparently they want to accomplish this without calling undue attention to Jesus' situation. So, instead of marching into the house where Jesus is teaching, they hope to get him to come out to them. They sent someone in to Jesus to tell Jesus that they were outside waiting for him.

#### Verse 32

*A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."*

- The crowd informed Jesus of the situation.

#### Verse 33

*"Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked.*

- Such a question would have confirmed his family's suspicions. Only a crazy person would not know his own family.

#### Verse 34-35

*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."*

- Jesus then explained that his family was composed of those who do God's will, not of those who are just flesh and blood. His family was not composed of those who stood outside of the circle and assumed he was crazy. His family was composed of those who shared his devotion to his Father.

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *Family*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by *Cornerstone Fellowship* & The Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen. They are used here by permission.)