



Who are My Mother and My Brothers?

Mark 3:7-35

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Overview: Jesus's ministry begins to expand numerically and geographically as crowds of people are drawn to his healing power, teaching ability, and divine authority. In order to meet the demands of an expanding ministry, Jesus appoints twelve apostles who will learn from Him, speak on His behalf, and confront evil in His name. The fact that these apostles would meet with various degrees of success in their subsequent ministries indicates that Jesus's new movement ultimately rested on His shoulders. His ministry would continue to expand despite betrayal from a friend, misunderstanding by His family, and false accusations by outsiders. This text leaves us with the understanding that neither following Jesus from a distance nor claiming to know Him through family ties is sufficient for having a relationship with God—we must see Jesus for who He is and order our lives around His agenda.

01. If you are part of the crowd following Jesus at a distance, be sure to connect the works of Jesus with the claims about Jesus in order to help you commit your life to Jesus.

02. If you are part of the culture opposing Jesus at every turn, be sure to consider the words of Jesus within the stories about Jesus in order to help you appreciate the real Jesus.

03. If you are part of the church serving Jesus at every opportunity, be sure to continue loving Jesus by learning from Jesus in order to help you enjoy the family of Jesus.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

1. Mark refers to the crowds several times in our passage (3:7, 8, 9, 20, 32), and he notes that they came from many different areas (3:7-8). Since there was no social media back then, how do you suppose people heard about Jesus's ministry? In what ways does sharing our personal testimony reflect this same model of evangelism?

2. Without looking at other texts or any other reference work, discuss what you know about the lives of the apostles listed in 3:16-19. Which of the apostles stand out the most, and for what reasons? Which of the apostles seems less familiar to you? What does this lack of information suggest about how God works through people in the church?

3. Why did Jesus's family believe that he was "out of his mind" (3:21)? What do you suppose they intended to say to Him as they tried to "seize" Him? Have your friends or family ever said the same about you because of your commitment to Christ? If not, why not?

4. Note the foolish logic from the scribes as they assessed Jesus's ministry (3:22-26). Why were their assessments at that particular time in history so heinous as to be unforgivable (3:28-30)? In other words, if they saw with their own eyes what God was doing through His Son and still believed that it was the work of the devil, was there anything else that would possibly change their minds?

5. When Jesus defines his family as the ones who do the will of God (3:34-35), He is not dishonoring His mother (Mary) or His brothers, but rather highlighting the new community that God is creating. How has your family responded to your commitment to Christ? In what ways do you seek to honor your family through your commitment to Christ?

For Further Reading: John Stott, Basic Christianity (InterVarsity Press, 1958; Eerdmans 3rd ed. 2017)

Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



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TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Verse 1

To God be the glory! Great things He has done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life gate that all may go in

Chorus

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done!

Verse 2

O redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

Verse 3

Great things He has taught us
Great things He has done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer and higher and great will be
Our wonder, our victory when Jesus we see!

Chorus

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done!

Bridge

Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory!
Give Him glory!
Great things He has done!

Bridge

Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory!
Give Him glory!
Great things He has done!

Chorus

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done!

Chorus

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory, great things He has done!

Bridge

Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory!
Give Him glory!
Great things He has done!

Bridge

Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory!
Give Him glory!
Great things He has done!

Bridge

Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory!
Give Him glory!
Great things He has done!

GOOD GOOD FATHER

Verse 1

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

Chorus

You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are
it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am
It's who I am

Verse 2

And I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know that we're all searching for answers only You provide
'Cause You know just what we need before we say a word

Chorus

You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are
it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am
It's who I am

Chorus

You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are
it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am
It's who I am

Bridge

Because You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Bridge

Because You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Verse 3

Love so undeniable, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love

Chorus

You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are
it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am
It's who I am

Bridge

Because You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

GOODNESS OF GOD

Verse 1

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire
And in darkness nights, You are close like no other
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh I will sing of the goodness of God

Bridge

'Cause Your goodness is runnin' after
It's runnin' after me
Your goodness is runnin' after
It's runnin' after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything 'cause Your goodness is runnin' after
It's runnin' after me

Chorus

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

Tag

Oh I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God

CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH

Verse 1

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand

Chorus

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Verse 2

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ?

Chorus

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Verse 3

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
"Christ He lives! Christ He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Chorus

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Chorus

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Tag

Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

OH HOW GOOD IT IS

Verse 1

Oh how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in Spirit, in faith and unity
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us

Chorus

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His Word
'Till the whole world sees the Redeemer has come
for He dwells in the presence of His people

Verse 2

Oh how good it is on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy, and weep with those who mourn
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging

Chorus

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His Word
'Till the whole world sees the Redeemer has come
for He dwells in the presence of His people

Verse 3

Oh how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives
When we live as one, we all share in the love
of the Son with the Father and the Spirit

Chorus

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His Word
'Till the whole world sees the Redeemer has come
for He dwells in the presence of His people