



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Restore (Mark 3:20-35)

GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together.

In what way has someone's good intentions actually been a barrier to you walking in the footsteps of Jesus?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What idea, context, Scripture do you think could have been expanded on, or included in the message?

Dave made an important implication from this passage...

When you look at the life and ministry of Jesus, and how others responded to Him, it often reveals the brokenness, sinfulness, inner conflict and disintegration of our lives. In what ways can we live a fragmented life that needs the healing and restoration of our Savior? How can we project onto others, what is really deeply divided within ourselves? What does Jesus want to restore in us?

What does it mean to you when Jesus says, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers? How can we experience that on a deeper level within our church family?"

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Read Mark 3:20-35]

When Jesus enters a house, what did he experience (v. 20)?

Who heard about this and what did they decide to do (v. 21)?

While His family members were on their way, what did the lawyers (Pharisees) declare (v. 22)?

In vv. 23-26, how does Jesus show that their charge is illogical?

In v. 27, who is stronger than the "strong man?"

What does Jesus declare can be forgiven (v. 28)?

What does Jesus declare will not be forgiven (v. 29)?

Why did Jesus say this (v. 30)?

Review v. 21. Who arrives (v. 31)?

What happened next (v. 32)?

What did Jesus say that probably shocked the people (vv. 33-34)?

What is the dividing line (v. 35)?

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

Think About It: Jesus experienced family pressure for Him to rest and stop the craziness. Their intentions were good in that they cared about Him. But, they misread the work He was doing. Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever looked back at your actions and could say, "I've done that"? How? (vv 20-21)

Think About It: They (Pharisees) know the truth and are still choosing against God and are slandering God in the process! He's doing the miracles. Demons don't heal people; God does. Who has been getting all the praise for the healings as they happened so far? (vv 22-27)

Think About It: The family of Jesus, now the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being "crazy". But, the reality is that Jesus, as fully God and fully Human is the only "sane" one in the room. In what way can we live a divided life and then blame others for it?

Let's define blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. Read John 16:8-9 and discuss what it is and is not. In what way have you heard people badly misinterpret this passage? (vv 28-30)

Think About It: This reference to "family" is a foretaste of the Church. Every believer is adopted into God's family by faith in Jesus. Doing God's will by responding to Jesus makes you "family." Your personal response to Jesus is not dependent on your birth and rearing. (v 31-35)

The underlying question Jesus is asking the crowd is this, "Will you follow Me more than the influence of your immediate family?" How will you answer that question?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?
How can we pray for each other?