

Mark 3:20-35 | *Jesus: Lunatic, Liar, or Lord?*

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20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. **21** When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

22 And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

23 So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? **24** If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. **25** If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. **26** And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. **27** In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. **28** Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, **29** but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin."

30 He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

31 Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. **32** A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

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

34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! **35** Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

QUESTIONS

- Opening Sharing Qn.** How does God usually reveal His will to you?
- Read vv.20-21. What do you think prompted Jesus' family to act in the way that they did?

3. Read vv.22-30. In your own words, describe how Jesus responds to the accusation of the scribes, or teachers of the law.

4. Read vv.31-35. Explain: what is the meaning of what Jesus is saying here? Is Jesus rejecting family relationships? If not, what is the key truth that He is teaching His followers?

5. **Key Application Qn.** This passage reminds us that true disciples of the Lord Jesus
(i) don't force their own agendas onto Jesus,
(ii) determine to take Jesus at His word, and
(iii) devote themselves to doing the will of God.

What is one area in your life where you struggle a little (or maybe a lot?) with Christ's lordship? What do you sense God saying about how you are to respond?

Share with your CG, and lovingly bring each other before the Lord in prayer.