

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



Various--March 10th, 2024

Sermon Recap:

The Church as True Family

I. Jesus' Family

- Jesus' family consists of Mary, four brothers, and at least three sisters.
- Joseph has passed away at this point.
- Mary is present with her unbelieving sons, to take Jesus home, claiming he is "out of his mind."
 - Implying that Mary's faith had wavered.
- While He is perfect, Jesus' earthly home and family were not. The mess of His family enables him to sympathize with us in our discouragements, anxieties, and burdens when dealing with our own family.

II. God's Household

- Jesus is confronted, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." He responds, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

a. Jesus reprioritizes the Family

- Obedience to the fifth commandment does not excuse disobedience to the first commandment.
- Neglecting his calling and ending his ministry to obey his family would have made them an idol.
- His spiritual family and honoring his Father in heaven comes first.

b. Jesus redefines the Family

- "Those who do the will of my Father." Who does the will of the Father? Only those who are empowered by the Holy Spirit. Who has the Holy Spirit? Only those who are regenerate? Who are regenerate? Only those saved by faith.
- Ephesians 2:11-19- We are saved into the household of God.
 - *oikeios*- "belonging to a house or family, domestic, intimate, belonging to one's household, related by blood, kindred"
- 1 Timothy 3:14-15- the household of God is the church of the living God.
 - The Church is a family.
 - The earthly family exists to point to the true family of God: the Church.
- Galatians 6:10- do good to others, especially those in the household of faith.
 - The Church as a family is not a theoretical concept. It is a practical idea.
 - Practically, we all are responsible for serving one another, putting the good of the family before the individual.

Discussion Questions:

- Who were the members of Jesus' family?
- Who was missing? What can we infer from their absence?
- What was the significance of Mary's presence in Mark 3:31?
- How can the state of Jesus' family encourage us as we endeavor to fulfill our roles in our own families?
- How does Jesus reprioritize the family?
- How does Jesus redefine the family?
- Who is the household of God?
- Who is the family of God (1 Timothy 3:14-15)?
- What is the purpose of the earthly family?

Application:

- What are your thoughts and feelings regarding your role and responsibility in your family?
- How can Jesus' sympathizing with you, aid you in discouragement or anxiety?
- Do you ever find yourself idolizing the family?
- How does Jesus' definition of family call you away from that idol?
- Is the church your family? Would the church say that you are part of their family?
- What practical steps can you take to "do good" to those who are in the household of God?

