

### **Mark 3:20-21, 31-35 New Living Translation**

**20** One time Jesus entered a house, and the crowds began to gather again. Soon he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat. **21** When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.

**31** Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him. They stood outside and sent word for him to come out and talk with them. **32** There was a crowd sitting around Jesus, and someone said, "Your mother and your brothers are outside asking for you."

**33** Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" **34** Then he looked at those around him and said, "Look, these are my mother and brothers. **35** Anyone who does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

### **John 7:1-5 New Living Translation**

**1** After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. **2** But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, **3** and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! **4** You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" **5** For even his brothers didn't believe in him.

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

Describe your siblings if you have any? How would you describe your relationship with them?

Read Mark 3:20-21, 31-35 and John 7:1-5. How would you describe Jesus' relationship with His siblings? Why do you think they were so hostile to Jesus?

Imagine yourself in the place of James, the brother of Jesus. What would it have been like growing up with Jesus? How would you have viewed Him?

In the sermon, John made the point that "sometimes proximity to religion can hurt our connection to Jesus." How have you seen this in your life or in the lives of others?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:5-7. How would this have changed James' opinion of Jesus?

What doubts or questions about Jesus do you still wrestle with?

John debunks a few myths about doubt. 1) Doubt is the opposite of faith. 2) Doubt is unforgivable. 3) Doubt is always unhealthy. Which of these myths have you believed?

How can doubts and questions lead us to health and faith?

Read 1 Peter 3:15. How can your Grow Group help you wrestle with your doubts and grow in your trust in Jesus?

**Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**

**Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?**

**Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**