



Let's Talk:

If you have siblings, how would you characterize your relationships with them - fun, nurturing, intimidating, close, not close at all? If you never had a sibling is there a friend who became like a brother or sister to you - why do you consider them as such?

Let's Study:

Read Mark 6:1-6.

Which of Jesus' siblings are mentioned in this passage? How did those listening to Jesus react to his ministry? What does their reaction tell you about how Jesus' siblings felt about growing up with Jesus as their brother?

Read James 1:1 and Jude 1:1

Jesus' half-brothers James and Jude's attitudes towards Jesus changed. After Jesus rose from the dead, they refer to themselves as servants of God. What does it mean to identify as 'servants of God'? How do you feel about the term 'servant or slave' of God?

Read Hebrews 2:9-12.

Everyone who comes to Christ is adopted into God's family. How does God adopting us impact us? What does it mean to you that Jesus Christ says 'He is your brother'?

Let's Apply:

Consider the following statements from Jon's sermon, which one most resonates with you and why?

Jesus our brother is not ashamed of us; Jesus our brother leads us to become servants; Jesus our older brother will resurrect us!

As brothers and sisters, how can we help one another work towards the goals of servanthood, obedience and loyalty?

Let's Pray:

"The whole creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons and daughters of God coming into their own!" Romans 8:19. (JB Philips)

Pray for one another that we will embrace our identity in Christ as we are being transformed into His image day by day, by as Eugene H. Peterson says, "*a long obedience in the same direction.*"