

Sermon Guide for Sunday, June 6, 2021

Mark 3:2-35

In today's scripture reading, Jesus and his disciples are swamped by people in search of the healing Jesus has been working throughout the region. People are talking about Jesus – not all in a good way. They reason that anyone who casts out demons must be possessed by demons himself, working with Satan. Jesus' family – his mother and brothers go to find Jesus, concerned that he is not mentally well. When told his mother and brothers are asking to see him, Jesus replies, "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."

At first look, it may seem that Jesus is being disrespectful to his "family." However, maybe Jesus is helping us to understand that "family" can include others who are not related to us biologically.

Think about your closest relationships with people other than your biological family. What makes those relationships so special? Do you consider that person "family?"

Most families have issues of some kind or other. No family is "perfect." But... we know that God can and does use all kinds of people in all kinds of situations. God never wastes an experience. The Bible is full of families who were dysfunctional, but yet were used by God to be a blessing to God and those around them.

"Broken and Blessed" is a book based upon those "broken" families of the book of Genesis, beginning with Adam and Eve and moving through Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah with their twins Jacob and Esau, Rachel and her sister Leah, and Joseph and his coat of many colors. These are the fathers of our faith, but yet their lives were a real soap opera! If God can use people like them, then God can surely use people like us!

I plan to offer a 7-week study this summer based on "Broken and Blessed." Would you like to join me? Let me know! 816-724-1174; pastorcindybuhman@gmail.com