

“Why The Bible Rejects The Nuclear Family”

Mark 3: 31 - 35

March 1, 2015

“Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” (Mark 3:32, ESV)

1. How have we been taught to see the family?

And his mother and his brothers came, and STANDING outside they sent to him and CALLED him.

a) *“Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion...”* b) *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.* c) *And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it...”* (Genesis 1:26–28, ESV)

- What does this verse teach about the uniqueness of men and women?
- What does this verse teach about the source of one’s value or worth?
- What does this verse teach about God’s expectation for family?

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.” (Genesis 2:24–25, ESV)

- What does this verse teach about the “association” of the husband and wife?

2. How does our society see the family?

And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers ARE (Impv. –“look”) outside, seeking you.” And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?”

a) *“And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.”* b) *And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them...”* (Luke 2:48–51, ESV)

- What does this verse teach about Mary’s desires? God’s design?
- What does this verse teach about the single, unifying vision for the family?

3. What does Jesus teach us about what the family really is?

And LOOKING about at those who SAT around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.

a) *“... For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.”* b) *Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’* c) *Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”* (Matthew 25:41–46, ESV)

- What is the true difference between the two groups of people mentioned in this verse?
- Why did the people Jesus speaks to not “see” those who were hungry & thirsty?
- What happens to those who fail to “see?”