

QUESTIONS WEEK BEGINNING 30 MARCH 2025

ICEBREAKER

What are the benefits and drawbacks of celebrating one-off special days like Mother's Day and Father's Day?

Read Mark 3:13-21

1. The impression is that Jesus had many disciples and from that group He "*called to Him*" twelve of them (v13)
 - i. Why do you think Jesus only chose 12 of them to join Him?
 - ii. Why were they all men?
2. When He called out the name "Judas Iscariot" do you think Jesus already knew that Judas was going to betray Him?
3. Luke's version of this event says that he had "*spent the night praying to God*" before calling these 12 men (Luke 6:12-16). This sets us a good example to follow when we come to choose leaders for our church.
 - i. What specific things might Jesus have prayed for, before choosing His team?
 - ii. How should we be praying whilst our church members nominate people to join our Ministry Team and Trustees until April 23 and then vote for them on May 14?
 - iii. If you are a church member have you picked up a nomination form from the foyer yet? If not, why not?
4. Jesus' early ministry attracted a lot of attention, so much so that people quickly crowded into places where He was (v20). Where have you been where it was so full of people that you hardly had room to move? How did it make you feel?
5. The response of Jesus' family was to consider that Jesus was "*out of his mind*" and they needed to come and get Him and bring Him home (v21)
 - i. Why might Jesus' family have viewed Him in this way?
 - ii. Have you ever experienced opposition from your family because you are a Christian?
6. Put the following in the order that you think we should prioritize when it comes to showing love and devoting our time to: **Our parents, our children, widows/widowers, God, our Church, local non-Churched people, people abroad in need?**

Read Mark 3:31-35

7. Jesus was teaching that being a member of His spiritual family was more important than being a member of His biological family.
 - i. We are not told, but how do you think Mary felt when Jesus said what He did in verses 34-35?
 - ii. How do you think His brothers might have responded?
8. What do you think Jesus meant by being someone who "*does God's Will*"? (v35)
9. What is your reaction to Jesus saying that regardless of your gender you could be His mother (v35)?
10. How might you be able to bless your biological family and your spiritual family this week?