Kingdom Come Midpoint

A study for Community Groups to use the week of October 18th

To prepare for your group discussion each week**,** group members should use the **Series Guide** below along with the foundational questions we ask each week.

Mark 3:20-35

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

*Mark again returned to the opposition theme (cf. 2:1—3:6). He directed his readers back and forth between Jesus' acceptance on a superficial level by the multitudes, His disciples' growing commitment to Him, and the increasing hostility of the religious leaders. This structural pattern highlights the contrasts between the three groups. -**Constable's Notes***

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

1. How does Jesus expose the contradiction in the scribes' argument? Why is the concept of a "divided house" or "divided kingdom" such a powerful illustration? How are you personally tempted to fall into this trap?

2. What specific roadblocks do you regularly encounter to experiencing a connected life with Jesus? What would it look like for you to experience that connected life with Him this week? How would it impact your home, work, school, neighborhood?

3. Jesus completely redefines family boundaries in v.33. What are the practical implications of viewing your church community or fellow believers as actual "mothers, brothers, and sisters"? How would your group interact differently if that was the case?

*Over the next several weeks we will continue to revisit this idea of living connected to Jesus and connected to one another. As you conclude, take some time to even think back on seasons when you experienced greater connection to Jesus and to other believers. What were you experiencing then, that maybe you could seek to greater experience now with the group you are currently in?