Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. January 13, 2019

 **The Church: We Are Family**

Mark 3:31-35

**Key Truth:** The church is not a place where we gather, it is a people joined together by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Jesus’ life and mission revolved around the will of God.

 A. Our behavior toward God and one another is what

 sets us apart. John 10:34-35

2. Family is the one word the describes the intent of the

 gospel.

 A. The most important relationship for a disciple is being

 connected to a spiritual family.

 B. Jesus Christ emphasizes the family connection even

 when teaching on prayer. Matthew 6:9

 C. You cannot be a mature disciple disconnected from

 the family of God. Ephesians 4:11-16

3. Jesus Christ elevates the church over biological family

 ties.

 A. The Kingdom of God transcends the normal blood

 relations known as “family.”

 B. The gospel will cause tension in your family.

 Luke 14:25-26

4. To grow in spiritual maturity we need to connect and do

 life with other believers. ACTS 2:42-47

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Trust Christ as your Savior, Covenant with a local church, join a Connection Group, and find someone you can be truthful and transparent with.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

If you’re a Christian, what did you give up in order to follow Christ? If you’re not a Christian, what things or relationships are you holding on to that you must let go of in order to know and love Christ?

Read mark 3:20-27: Why did Jesus’ family restrain Him and claim He was out of His mind? What did they see in Jesus? What should they have seen instead?

Read Luke 14:25-27: How do Jesus’ questions illustrate that loyalty to the kingdom of God is deeper than blood?

When faced with the choice, which family would you choose?

In what ways can you remain loyal to Christ this week? In what ways is your relationship with Christ a matter of continual faithfulness?

1 Samuel 20:12-17: What made Jonathan’s relationship with David supersede his relationship with King Saul his father?

Besides your spouse are you connected in a meaningful, uplifting, spiritual and accountable relationship with someone at BTWC? If not, what’s hindering you?