**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr April 25, 2021**

**The Church Is More Than A Building?**

Mark 3:20-35

**Key Truth:** To follow Jesus is to love His people and prioritize the Kingdom of God over every other relationship.

**Unpacking The Story**:

1. Misunderstood By His Family: **Mark 2:20-21**

 A. Mary was trying to control Jesus because things weren’t

 going the way, she expected.

2. The Unforgivable sin? **Mark 3:22-28**

 A. Attributing the miracles and the power of Jesus to the

 Devil and trying to get people to deny Him.

3. Jesus makes a cultural shift: **Mark 3:31-35**

 A. Jesus elevates the family of God over His natural family.

 1. Jesus describes His followers as family.

**Understanding The Church Affects How We Behave:**

1. Jesus came to redeem a people from all nations that would

 relate to one another as family.

2. This new family would be known for their allegiance to Jesus

 and their love for one another.

3. You cannot separate love for God from love for God’s church.

 **1 John 4:21**

4. We must prioritize God’s Kingdom intentionally and publicly.

 A. We need to develop Gospel relationships and friendships.

5. How we interact with the family of God strengthens our

 gospel witness to the world.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls**:

Praise Jesus that His Kingdom is worthy of being chosen. Allow the Holy Spirit to help you maintain your loyalty to God’s family and not the world’s.

**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?

Think about the most important people in your life right now. Who are the people to whom you are absolutely committed, no matter what?

Has anything ever happened that challenged this commitment? If so, share with the group.

Read Mark 3:31-35: How do Jesus’ questions illustrate that loyalty to the kingdom of God is deeper than blood?

Read Matthew 10:34-39: How can Jesus Christ make such a demand of us? What about Jesus statement was radical then and is still radical also in the church today? In what ways are we to practically live this out?

Matthew 11:1-6: What circumstance in John the Baptist life would have made him question was Jesus the Messiah? How did Jesus’ response to John show not only compassion but appreciation for John’s ministry? (See Matthew 11:7-14)

Read: Isaiah 55:8-9: Pastor Felton stated, “Mary didn’t fully understand what God was doing therefore she was trying to control Jesus”. What does this verse say regarding God? How can we apply it to us when we don’t understand what God is doing?

Read Acts 2:42-47: How did the early church behavior reflect the love of God. What impact did their love for one another have on the onlooking community?

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