

# Parent Passage Guide

## Mark 3:7–35

### Note to Parents

- We know carving out time for these conversations isn't always easy, but your consistent effort to disciple your children is something God will use to bring fruit in their lives long-term.
  - In Mark 3, Jesus' ministry expands rapidly, drawing massive crowds from surrounding regions while also sparking intense opposition from religious leaders and His own family. Through this tension, Jesus demonstrates His ultimate authority over evil and redefines His true family as anyone who does God's will.
    - **Tip:** *If the conversation gets stuck on the intense details of demons or family conflict, gently guide the focus back to Jesus being the "Stronger One" who is entirely in control.*
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### For Younger Children (Under 12)

- Jesus is so powerful that huge crowds wanted to be near Him, but some people misunderstood what He was doing. Jesus showed that He is stronger than any evil, and He promised that anyone who does God's will—which simply means believing in Jesus and following Him—is part of His real family.
- **The Bottom Line:** Jesus is the strongest of all, and we join His family when we believe in Him and live like He did.
- **Read & Understand:**

- Jesus talks about tying up a "strong man" to rescue what is inside his house. How is Jesus stronger than anything bad or scary?
  - Jesus said His true family are the people who do God's will. How can reading our Bible or praying, help us know what God wants us to do?
  - What is one choice you can make around friends or at home tomorrow that shows you are following Jesus?
  - **Daily Application:** When you have to make a hard choice today, stop and ask yourself, "What would Jesus want me to do?" to practice knowing and doing God's will.
  - **Prayer:** *Dear God, thank You that Jesus is stronger than anything else in the world. Help me to learn what You want, so I can follow Jesus and be an active part of Your family. Amen.*
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### **For Teenagers (Ages 12-16)**

- In a culture quick to judge anyone who steps outside the norm, Jesus faced severe opposition and was even called crazy by His own family. Yet, He didn't let public opinion distract Him from His mission to rescue people, and He clarified that His true family are those who do God's will—which the scripture connects directly to repenting, believing, and actively following Jesus.
- **Discussion Points:**
  - Jesus' family thought He was out of His mind. Why do you think people misunderstand us today when we try to take our faith seriously?

- How does simply spending time with Jesus help us figure out what God's will is for our own lives?
- We often overcomplicate God's will. The truth is that we don't always know what God wants us to do, but we do know (from the Bible) how He wants us to live. So what is one clear way you know God wants you to act at school or with your friends this week?
- **The Challenge:** This week, instead of worrying about the mysterious "big picture" of God's will for your whole future, focus on doing His clear will for today: spend 10 minutes reading the Gospels to know Jesus better, and then make one concrete choice that reflects His character to your friend group.
- **Prayer Focus:**
  - Courage to follow Jesus even when friends or even family misunderstand our choices.
  - Clarity to know God's will by spending intentional time "with Him" in the Word.
  - Deeper unity and connection with our spiritual family within the church.