

Matthew 12: 46-50

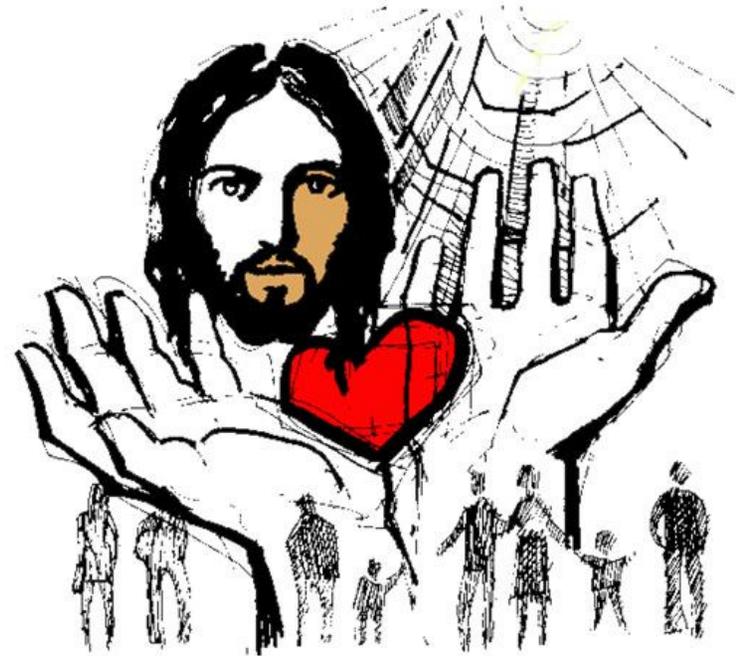
⁴⁶While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him. ⁴⁷Someone told him, ‘Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.’ ⁴⁸But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied,

‘Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?’

⁴⁹And pointing to his disciples, he said,

‘Here are my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.’

Matthew 12: 46-50



THE FAMILY OF GOD

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God-
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod;
For I'm part of the family, the family of God.

You will notice we say “brother and sister” ‘round here,
It's because we're a family and these are so near;
When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,
And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear.

From the door of an orphanage to the house of the King,
No longer an outcast, a new song I sing;
From rags unto riches, from the weak to the strong,
I'm not worthy to be here, but Praise God! I belong!

- William J. Gaither

DAILY PRAYER AND READING

Becoming Aware of God's Presence

The Lord is our light and our life: O come, let us worship.

Inviting God's Intervention

*Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
Psalm 95:1-2*

Listening for God's Voice: Matthew 12: 46-50

Day 1 – Read this week's scripture lesson. If you have two versions, read this again using another translation. Circle or underline the words that seem important. Why do you think this scripture was selected for Homecoming Sunday?

Day 2 – Read the lesson again. After each verse, write down every question you can think of for that verse.

Day 3 – Read the scripture around this week's lesson. What happens before and after the passage? Does the placement of the passage influence the meaning of this week's scripture lesson? Answer any questions from day 2, or add to this list.

Day 4 – Read the passage again, and mark additional significant words. Check these in a Bible Dictionary. Add answers or more questions to your notes.

Day 5 – As you read the passage again, notice whether it reminds you of other scriptures or stories. Is the same story told elsewhere in the Bible? Does the scripture remind you of any art, hymns or songs?

Day 6 – Review your notes. Read the passage again. List the themes you hear in the scripture lesson. What does the scripture say to the world today? To you?

Prayers for one another

Blessing

*Write thy blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
there to remain so indelibly engraven, that no
prosperity, no adversity shall ever move me from
thy love. Be thou to me a strong tower of defense,
a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, a
very present help in trouble, and a guide to heaven
through the many temptations and dangers of this
life. Amen. - Thomas à Kempis*