

# FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

## The Dividing Line of Jesus | Mark 3:22-35

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

By this point in Mark's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is drawing large crowds and growing opposition. The religious leaders from Jerusalem accuse Jesus of being empowered by Satan (3:22), while His own family misunderstands His mission (3:21, 31–35). This passage reveals a sobering reality: Jesus forces a response. People cannot remain neutral about Him. Some recognize God's work, while others harden their hearts against it.

### ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Have you ever misunderstood someone's intentions or actions, only to realize later you were wrong? What changed your perspective?

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# GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## Understanding the Conflict (3:22–27)

1. Why do the scribes accuse Jesus of being empowered by Satan?

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2. How does Jesus' "divided kingdom" illustration expose the weakness of their accusation?

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3. What does Jesus mean by "binding the strong man" (v. 27)?

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## The Warning About Hardness (3:28–30)

4. What is the "blasphemy against the Holy Spirit" in this context?

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5. Why is attributing God's work to Satan such a serious spiritual condition?

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6. What does this teach us about persistent unbelief?

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**Redefining Family (3:31–35)**

7. Why does Jesus redefine family in verses 33–35?

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8. What does it mean to “do the will of God”?

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9. How does this challenge cultural or personal assumptions about belonging to God?

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# PERSONAL DEVOTION

Read Mark 3:22–35 slowly and prayerfully.

Reflect on these questions:

- Am I resisting something God is trying to show me?
- Do I follow Jesus out of familiarity or true obedience?
- Is my heart soft and responsive to the Holy Spirit?

Ask God to help you recognize Jesus clearly and respond with faith rather than skepticism or pride.

## QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS

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