

Mark: Insiders & Outsiders

Mark 3:7-35



1. What insight, observation, or question do you have from this week's reading plan?
2. What insight, principle or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye opening or troubling? Please explain.
3. In what sphere of your life have you felt like an insider or an outsider?
4. What are some criteria or ideas commonly believed to make us an insider with Jesus (not doing bad things, giving money, going to church, being born into a Christian home, not committing "big" sins...)?
5. Read Mark 3:20-35. Jesus made some uncomfortable statements, especially to those who are comfortably thinking they are insiders. How does this challenge and warn us/you?
6. Jesus defined what it means to be on the inside when he said it is those who do the will of God. Jesus perfectly lived the will of God, and so the will of God is wrapped up in him. How does this challenge some common thinking about who is an insider and who is an outsider? (Being an insider isn't about looking the part, but about living the part - those who are with Jesus, in him, doing God's will.)
7. As you think of God's will, what are some other Scriptures that speak to God's will for us? Discuss these together. (A few examples: Proverbs 3:5-6, 1 Thess. 4:14-18.)
8. Jesus took a "not my will but yours" posture to God. What would it look like for us to take this posture? In what area of your life is it most difficult to take this posture?
9. Pray for each other.