

QUEST – 52 – Week 10
How Do You Get Into Jesus’s Inner Circle?

February 2, 2025

KEY POINTS:

- Blood is *not* thicker than water, at least according to Jesus.
- Mark’s story shows how Jesus’s family was more similar to his enemies than to his disciples.
- To Jesus, insiders are those who prioritize their heavenly Father over their earthly families.

QUESTIONS:

As you read the essay, what was the one thing about the story that stuck out to you and might have caused you to think differently about Jesus and his inner circle?

Read Isaiah 49. Look for clues as to how Jesus might have read this chapter in light of his own ministry. If he was to restore Israel, what would be his obligation to other nations?

Meditate on 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 2:14; Colossians 3:11. Rewrite these verses for your community – what groups have been or should be brought together in your local church?

- How would you answer a child who says, “That’s not fair”? Can you give a specific example?
- Share about a time when you felt special because you were in someone’s inner circle. What specifically made you feel valued?
- Have you had an experience in church that made you feel like you didn’t belong? What made you feel that way? How did you respond?
- Are we sending messages verbally or nonverbally that could be make other people feel like they don’t belong in Jesus’s inner circle? What could we do differently to be more open, especially in our smaller groups?