

## Scripture References

Mark 3:31-35 Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Gen 4:1-12 Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

Gal 6:9-10 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

## Authentic Jesus, A Study in 1 John

July 21, 2019

### Fred Hennes, Sermon #641, "Active Love" (1 John 3:11-24)

Every person has a physical \_\_\_\_\_ and a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

Your physical family includes those who are related by \_\_\_\_\_. Your spiritual family includes those who are related by \_\_\_\_\_.

The first law of the physical life is self-\_\_\_\_\_. The first law of the spiritual life is self-\_\_\_\_\_.

A healthy, functional family will \_\_\_\_\_ each other by caring, sharing and sacrificing.

### Four Levels of Living:

4. \_\_\_\_\_ – Personal & active, sacrificial & costly.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ – Uncaring, self-centered, apathetic.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ – Disgust, delights in the suffering in others.
1. \_\_\_\_\_ – Lowest possible level on which the Devil himself exists.

### Life Group Ice-Breaker Question

1. How did your birth father and mother meet each other?

## Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. Read Mark 3:31-35. When Jesus declared who his mother and family are, how do you suppose his biological mother and siblings reacted?
4. Are born-again blood related family members more of a "brother or sister" than non-blood related born-again "brothers or sisters"? Why or why not?
5. Review the four levels of living that were mentioned. Do you think a Christian can live at the third level? Can a non-Christian live at the second level? Explain.

6. Describe your view of a healthy, loving, highly functional church family.

## Application Questions & Prayer

7. What concerns of other Christians are you indifferent to? Why?
8. What concerns of other Christians are you pouring out love toward in action and in truth? What impact does a personal relationship have to your answer of either love or indifference? Why?
9. Pray to live your life at the highest level possible, bringing glory to God and comfort to your brother and sisters.