

We are Family

Theme

We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Object

Song: "The Family of God"

Scripture

"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." Mark 3:33-35 (NIV)

What is a family? One definition I found in the dictionary said a family is "A group consisting of parents and children living together in a household." That is, no doubt, one way to define a family, but a family can be much more than that, can't it? A family can be any group that is brought together by common interests, beliefs, and love for one another. One of the best examples of this kind of family is the Church. The Church is a family bound together by love for God, their Heavenly Father, and for one another. There is a song written by Bill and Gloria Gaither that describes the Church as the family of God.

"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.

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus was together with his disciples in a house. When Jesus' mother and brothers arrived at the house, they sent someone inside to look for him. They told Jesus, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

Jesus looked around at the people seated around him and answered, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

Did Jesus love his real mother and brothers? Of course he did, but he also realized that he had another family. It was a family made up of those who loved his Heavenly Father and wanted to do his will.

You and I love our families, but we also have a wonderful family of faith made up of brothers and sisters who love God and love one another. It is wonderful to be a part of "The Family of God."

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our families and we thank you for our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Interactive Group Activities
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

Sermon Title: "We Are Family"

Scripture Reading: Mark 3:20-35

FAMILY PICK UP: This game could be played like hide and seek or like the game of tag. Either way, one person will start and find or tag another person to JOIN THE FAMILY. They will hold hands each time one is caught and continue to find or tag more and hold hands until the whole class is holding hands and running together.

FAMILY OBSTACLE RUN: Set up a simple obstacle course and then children will all hold hands or can be behind each other and hold on to the shoulders or waist of the person ahead of them. Children will run through the obstacle course together but never letting go of the person in front of them.

FAMILY COLLAGE: Children can be given construction paper to make a border around the edges. Children can cut out pictures to make a family collage with pictures of adults and children. Write words from today's Bible verse or lesson at the top of the picture collage.

FAMILY HUNT: Hide the letters of F-A-M-I-L-Y around the room and tell children to run to find the FAMILY!! Put their FAMILY letters in order on a poster board and write words about GOD's FAMILY around the poster board or a word for each of the F-A-M-I-L-Y letters.

HAPPY FACE FAMILY: Provide children with large happy face stickers to stick onto a piece of construction paper or a bright colored recipe card. Children can draw arms and legs on their happy face stickers and write GOD's FAMILY... or write names of their own family over the top or under the happy face stickers.

FAMILY CLOTHES PINS: Give children several wooden clothes pins to decorate as a "person"... sharp point markers for facial features; small piece of material to glue around as a shirt or dress; and yarn to glue on the top as hair or a cut out piece of felt, etc and cut as a hat. Let children use their "family people" to tell today's story.

FAMILY CUTOUTS: Children can be given a piece of construction paper and fold back and forth 4 times and draw an outline of a person but when cutting the outline,

make sure to not cut on the folds of the hand area so when the "people" are unfolded, they are connected at the hands, as a FAMILY, and hang on the classroom wall!

FAMILY TREE: Children could draw a large tree on a poster board or on their own individual piece of construction paper. Show children how to make branches and leaves, etc. Children can write names of people that they know belong to the FAMILY OF GOD. Label their drawing at the trunk of the tree as the FAMILY OF GOD. Add flowers, birds, grass, or flower stickers, etc, as desired.

SING A SONG: IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT; I'M HAPPY ALL THE TIME.

SHARE A SNACK: Each child can be given a round happy face cookie already frosted and happy face drawn on the cookie with frosting gel, or the teacher can allow the children to draw the happy face as well.

Song: "If You're Happy and You Know It"

[Words and music \(pdf\)](#)



[MP3 piano accompaniment](#)

Song: "I'm Happy All the Time"

[Words and music \(pdf\)](#)



[MP3 piano accompaniment](#)

About Carol Williams

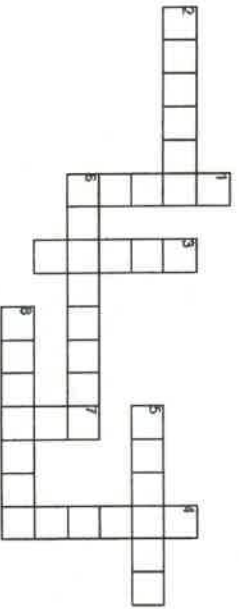
Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles the clown.

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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 2. A woman who has given birth to a child
- 5. Parents and children; people descended from a common ancestor
- 6. A follower of Jesus
- 8. A male with the same parents as another person

DOWN

- 1. A large number of people gathered together
- 3. A dwelling that serves as living quarters for one or more families
- 4. A female with the same parents as another person
- 7. To take in food

EAT	SISTER	CROWD	BROTHER
FAMILY	HOUSE	DISCIPLE	MOTHER



Children's Worship Bulletin

We Are Family

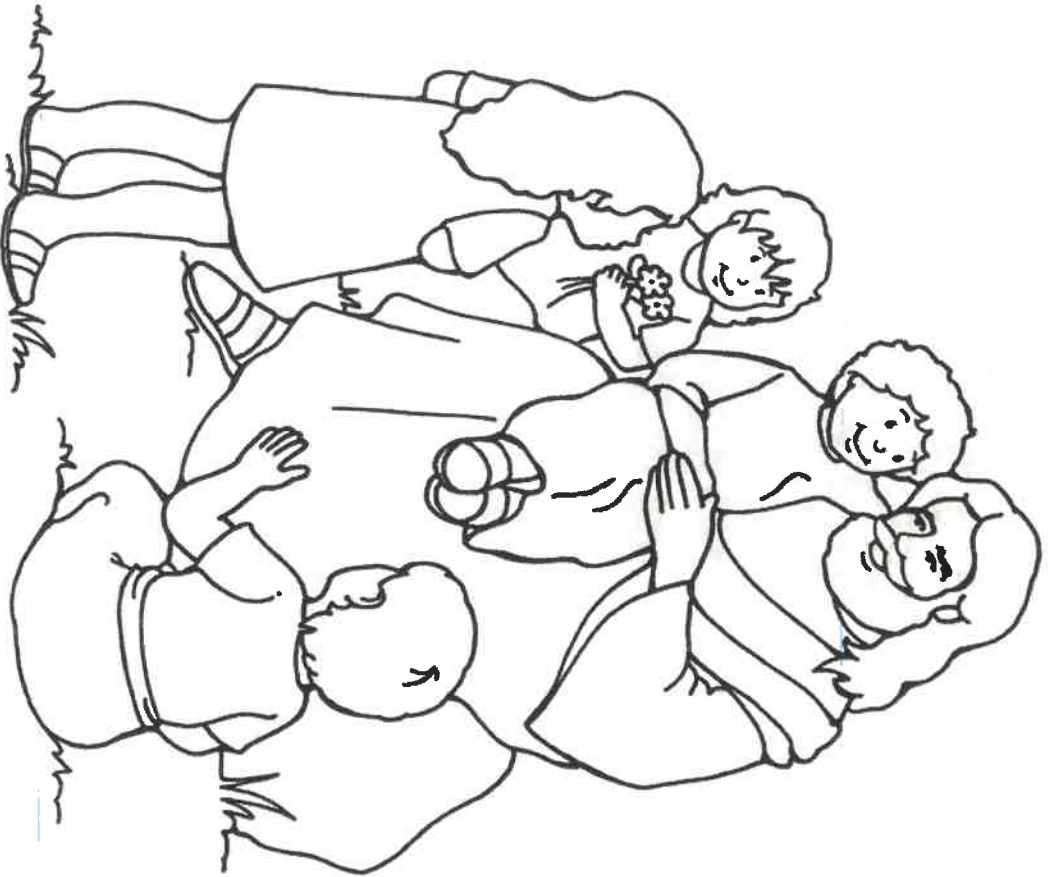
Mark 3:20-35

Word Search Puzzle

O S Q H P E G O C F N B S B X
 X K P Y L J A C F R A J Z P K
 W K R C F Z K P N T O M G M J
 L S R K I N G D O M D W I K R
 T I J M O C O B L F I V D L M
 C E M P P M H R R V S O D F Y
 K E A O L O N O R C C O D R Y
 F N R C P T K T W W I K M V L
 F V S H H H M H V Z P G C K X
 G S F O H E G E D Y L Y X Z A
 H E O U X R R R G Z E X A W V
 Y A D S R J Y S S Y S S B W D
 H T B E G A Z H J J H X Y N M
 V E D Q A Y L M J E S U S X Z
 J D H M T T P V I H L G X A W

HOUSE	JESUS	CIRCLE	FAMILY
DISCIPLES	EAT	KINGDOM	BROTHER
MOTHER	CROWD	TEACHERS	SEATED

Coloring Page



Jesus and the Children

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Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet.
 Substitute the correct letter for the numbers.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

6-1-13-9-12-25

4-9-19-3-9-16-12-5-19

8-15-21-19-5

10-5-19-21-19

2-18-15-20-8-5-18

13-15-20-8-5-18

19-9-19-20-5-18

3-18-15-23-4

FAMILY	DISCIPLES	HOUSE	JESUS
BROTHER	MOTHER	SISTER	CROWD





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