



**Aim:** To help the children to learn that each one of us is a member of the Family of Jesus

**Note to the Parent:**

The family of Jesus has a few meanings: There is the immediate family of Jesus, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as well as the relatives of Jesus. Today, we are going to learn that WE are also the family of Jesus.

**Room Setting:** All are seated in a circle on the floor, or on chairs in the living room.

**Quiet Time:**

**Parent:** Welcome the child and the other members of the family.

Invite all to become quiet and think of how each of us is a member the family of Jesus.

Allow a few minutes, and then invite all to share their thoughts.

**Parent:** Now tell the child and the family members the following:

- One day Jesus was teaching the people. And his family came and wanted to speak to him.
- Let's listen to what happened:

**The Gospel Story:**

Parent, or another member of the family, slowly reads **Mark 4:31-35** as follows:



**Parent** and other **Family Members:** (P=Parent, M=Family member).

- M. One day, while Jesus was teaching some people in a house, his mother and brothers and sisters came and stood outside.
- P. **Explain:** The brothers and sisters of Jesus world have been his cousins or other members of his extended family.
- M. As they stood outside, they sent someone to call him.
- P. The crowd sitting round Jesus told him,
- M. "Your mother and your brother and sisters are outside asking for you."
- P. Jesus replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers and sisters?"
- M. And Jesus, looking round at the people sitting there, said,
- P. "Here are my mother and my brothers and sisters. Whoever does the will, of God is brother and sister and mother to me."

**Discussion:**

**Parent:** Ask the child, (the other members of the family can help out):

- So, who are the brothers and sisters of Jesus?**
- Are we the brothers and sisters of Jesus?**
- Why is this so?**



**Parent** and other **Members of the Family** (P=Parent, M=Family member):

- P. Everyone who does the will of God is the brother and sister of Jesus.
- M. Mother Mary did what God asked her.
- N. God asked her to be the Mother of Jesus and she said to the Angel Gabriel, God's messenger: "Let it be done to me according to your word."
- P. Jesus himself said many times, "I have come to do the will of my Father, who sent me."

**Parent:** Ask: **So, what is the ONE THING that makes us brothers and sisters of Jesus?** Allow all to answer.

**Parent:** Now tell the child and the other members of the family:

- Because we are all the brothers and sister of Jesus we can join him at Holy Mass, and, when we are ready, we can join him in Holy Communion.

**Celebration:** All join in saying as if we were ready for our First Holy Communion:

*Give me Yourself, O Jesus Christ, my Brother. Give me Yourself, O Jesus Christ, my Lord.*