

# *Free To Grow*



# Jesus' radical idea - Family

Mark 3.31-35 (NIV11)

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.”

*adelphos* – brothers and sisters  
342 times in NT

“In a strong group society the person perceives him or herself to be a member of a group and responsible to the group for his or her actions, destiny, career, development and life in general.

The individual person is imbedded in the group and is free to do what he or she feels right and necessary only in accord to group norms and only if the action is in the group's best interest.

The group has priority over the individual, not the other way round.”



“The needs of the many  
outweigh the needs of the  
few”



# Radical, because Jesus defines his family not by blood lines but by “Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”

# Radical, Jesus call was to put his family ahead of our own!

# Radical, today, Jesus doesn't question the strong group approach to community. He says we have to make his group our primary group.

“In a church the person perceives him or herself to be a member of that church and responsible to the church for his or her actions, destiny, career, development and life in general.

The individual person is imbedded in the church and is free to do what he or she feels right and necessary only in accord to church norms and only if the action is in the church's best interest.

The church has priority over the individual, not the other way round.”

# Radical, today, to be a child of Father God is at the same time to be a sister or brother in the family.



Galatians 4.4-6 (NIV11)

When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba* , Father.”

What if being “free to grow” is directly linked to our commitment to Jesus’ strong group called the church?

What if this is what's holding  
you back from being “free to  
grow”?

What would you be prepared  
to do?