



Developed for the
Synod of Alberta
and the Territories
and adapted for the
Learning-Leadership
Development
Committee by
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Council Devotions

Who is my mother, my sister, my brother?

Read Mark 3:31 - 35

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ And he replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’

Ponder: [In pairs or in groups of 3, discuss what you hear from the reading.]

What ideas about *relationship* does Jesus introduce?

Name two actions that would be evidence of doing His will.

How might we imitate that here?

Summarize: [Hear from the other groups.]

Pray:

‘P’ – praise the qualities of Christ.

[You may include grace, mercy, love ...]

‘R’ – remember the things God has given you.

[Family, life, fellowship ...]

‘A’ – ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your deliberations.

[Include those items under consideration at this meeting.]

‘Y’ – yield to God’s will.

[Not my will, but yours be done.]

This devotional outline is intended to help you create your own opening devotion for your council meeting. The focus is on some aspect of leadership. It should promote discussion about Jesus and how he worked with his followers. Devotions in this style encourage council members to share their thinking about the role of leadership. This is a guide only and should be adapted to the time available and to your group. This opening devotion may take 5 – 10 minutes to conduct, but it will take a little preparation on your part. Themes you might highlight could be: God’s family, the strength of the bond among fellow believers, the importance of God’s will in the minds of leaders or the leaders’ need to question.