

Tuesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 3:31-35): ... Jesus said to them in reply, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

The "new family" of God

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, Jesus Christ reveals the family face of God and the universality of His love: every man is called to join His “family”, his “us”. The condition of “disciple of Jesus” is not restricted to a group of followers of the Master (as a “school” of thought), but everyone who listens and receives the Word can be “disciple”.

The decisive thing is to listen and to follow, not the origin or race. We’re all called to be disciples. Thus the attitude of attentive listening of the Word leads to a larger and renewed Israel. Without eliminating the ancient Israelites, it opens up to the universe. The vehicle to the universe is the “new family”, whose only prerequisite is the communion in the will of God.

—Jesus, Your “self” is not a capricious ego that revolves around Yourself, but a self that listens and obeys: the communion with You is a filial communion with the Father.