This episode features the first glimpse of Jesus' human mother since the Lord relocated her and her other children to Capernaum just after the Cana wedding (Jn. 2:12).

2. It is not known what Mary and her children wanted, and it is not important to this episode.
   a. They “wished to see” Him (Lk. 8:20).
   b. They “wished to speak” with Him (Matt. 12:47).
   c. They were unable to get inside because of the crowded conditions (Lk. 8:19).
   d. They sent and called (Mk. 3:31). Inside, it was reported to Him (Lk. 8:20).

3. Jesus had four brothers and plural sisters (Matt. 13:55–56; Mk. 6:3).
   a. Mary was only kept virgin until the birth of Jesus (Matt. 1:25).
   b. Jesus was her “firstborn” son (Lk. 2:7).
   c. These brothers were not even saved until after the resurrection (Jn. 7:5; Acts 1:14), but became Apostles during the Dispensation of the Church (Matt. 28:10; 1st Cor. 9:5).
   d. James, Ἰάκωβος. James = Jacob by virtue of the Latin dialectal variants Jacobus/Jacomus. (Norman French was Gemmes).
      2) Called as an Apostle (1st Cor. 9:5; 15:7; Gal. 1:19).
      3) Author of the Book of James.
   e. Joseph, Ἰωσήφ. Nothing is known of him. Could he be the Joseph called Barsabbas (also called Justus) (Acts 1:23)?
   g. Simon, Σίμων. Nothing is known of him.
   h. Descendants of these brethren were referred to as Desposyni in the early Church (Hegesippus c.110–180; Eusebius H.E. 3.20). Two grandsons of Jude were brought before Emperor Domitian.

4. Jesus used the circumstances of His earthly family's arrival to teach the principle of our heavenly family.
   a. Whoever does the will of God (Mk. 3:33) the Father (Matt. 12:50) by hearing the Word and applying it (Lk. 8:21) is a part of our heavenly family.
   b. This can only apply to believers (Jn. 6:29).
   c. This is not limited to any particular dispensation (Heb. 2:11).
      1) Jesus delivered this message during the Dispensation of Israel: Age of the Incarnation.
      2) This principle will be important in the Dispensation of Israel: Age of Tribulation (Matt. 25:40).
      3) This principle is taught in the Dispensation of the Church where our heavenly family relationship is a royal family (Acts 1:15–16; 1st Tim. 5:1–2; 1st Pet. 2:9).

5. The vital doctrine of heavenly family relationship is an encouragement for both time and eternity (Mk. 10:29–31).