1. **Luke 8:19-21**
   * + What does this Gospel reading seem to reveal about Jesus?
     + According to Jesus, who is his mother, brother, and sister?
     + **Genesis 11:27-30**
     + Who was Abraham’s father?
     + Who were Abraham’s brothers?
     + How is Lot related to Abraham?
     + **Genesis 13:5-8**
     + What words do you hear used in these various Bible’s to describe Abraham’s relation to Lot?
     + **Genesis 24:29**
     + What relationship does Rebekah have with Laban?
     + **Genesis 25:21-26**
     + What was Jacob’s relationship to Laban?
     + **Genesis 29:13-15**
     + What words do you hear used in these various Bibles to describe the relationship between Jacob and Laban?
     + How can what we hear being read, considering the varied Bible translations, in regard to Jacob being called Laban’s brother (even though he is not) and Abraham being called Lot’s brother (which he is not), still all be true? Because the Church teaches the Bible is inerrant and absolutely all Truth.
     + Read the **footnote** for **Mark 6: 3**
     + Use Google and type in “**define *ach* in Hebrew”** and share with the class what the word means?
     + Why is understanding the Hebrew word ***ach*** important?
     + Read the **Catechism’s** explanation aloud in section **499-501**.
     + **Matthew 13:54-56, Matthew 27:56, John19:25**
     + Not to make this anymore confusing, but what is the name of Jesus’ mother’s sister?
     + Is it possible she had kids that were his relatives (*ach* in Hebrew), please share your thoughts?
     + The **Catechism** has already answered this and it is correct; however, let us review another document from around 120 AD to make a conjecture.
     + **Protoevangelium of James** (Section 9, 120 A.D.) (Excerpt from Sections 9-10)

“And Joseph, throwing away his axe, went out to meet them; and when they had assembled, they went away to the high priest, taking with them their rods. And he, taking the rods of all of them, entered into the temple, and prayed; and having ended his prayer, he took the rods and came out, and gave them to them: but there was no sign in them, and Joseph took his rod last; and, behold, a dove came out of the rod, and flew upon Joseph's head. And the **priest said to Joseph, You have been chosen by lot to take into your keeping the virgin of the Lord**. But Joseph refused, saying: **I have children, and I am an old man**, and she is a **young girl**. I am afraid lest I become a laughing-stock to the sons of Israel. And the priest said to Joseph: Fear the Lord your God, and remember what the Lord did to Dathan, and Abiram, and Korah; how the earth opened, and they were swallowed up on account of their contradiction. And now fear, O Joseph, lest the same things happen in your house. **And Joseph was afraid, and took her into his keeping**. And **Joseph** said to **Mary**: Behold, I have received you from the temple of the Lord; and now I leave you in my house, and go away to build my buildings, and I shall come to you. The Lord will protect you.

And there was a council of the priests, saying: Let us make a veil for the temple of the Lord. And the priest said: Call to me the **undefiled virgins of the family of David**. And the officers went away, and sought, and found seven virgins. And the priest remembered the child **Mary**, that she **was of the family of David**, and **undefiled before God**.”

* + - If the **Protevangelium of James** had been accepted as canonical (this article was **not considered inspired**, therefore it is **not canonical**, but it is an important historical document), what other scenario could be a possibility (just based on **section 9** of this article)?
    - According to the Protoevangelium of James, was Joseph and Mary young or old?
    - What Tribe (Family) was Mary from?
    - What do you think a “*virgin of the Lord*” is?
    - **John 19:26-27**
    - One last thing to consider, is how does this reading in **John** support the belief that Mary had no other children, or even a husband at the time of Christ’ crucifixion, please explain?
    - **St. Bede** (672 AD – 735 AD) *Homilies on The Gospels Section 2.1*

“It tends to disturb some people that in the opening portion of this gospel reading it said that when our Lord went down to Capernaum, not only his mother and his disciples followed him, **but also his brothers**. There have been **heretics** who supposed that Joseph, the husband of the blessed virgin Mary, begot of another wife those whom the scriptures call the Lord’s brothers. **Others, with greater lack of faith**, have supposed **that he begot these of Mary herself after our Lord’s birth**. But **we**, dearly beloved brothers, without any hesitation or questioning **must be aware and confess that not only the blessed Mother of God, but also Joseph, the most blessed witness and guardian of her chastity, always remained wholly aloof from the conjugal act**; and further, that those who after the custom manner of the scriptures are called our **Savior’s brothers or sisters were not their children but their relatives**. **Abraham** spoke to **Lot** in the following way, ‘I beseech you, let there be no wrangling between you and me, and your shepherds and mine, **for we are brothers’**. **Laban** said to **Jacob**, ‘Because **you are my brother**, why should you have to serve me for nothing’. It is a fact that **Lot was the sone of Haran, Abraham’s brother**, and **Jacob the son of Rebekah, Laban’s sister**, but on account of **their kinship they were called brothers**. Because of this most common practice in the holy scriptures, **we should, as I have said, understand that the relatives of Mary and Joseph are called our Lord’s brothers**.”

* Please share something that was meaningful to you in today’s lesson with the group.