for Personal Study and Small Groups 5/26/13

## Matthew 12.38-50

**Purpose of SG:** to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

**2013 Annual Focus:** Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

**Announcements:** Corporate Prayer next Sunday (6/2)

**SG Discussion Questions:** 

**Focus:** giving us incentive to believe in Jesus by choosing against condemnation and demonic hard-heartedness and choosing for being in Jesus' family.

Read 12.38-42. Why does Jesus respond so negatively to their request for a sign? And what was the sign of Jonah he spoke of? On what does this center our faith? The Ninevites and the Queen of the South were gentiles from far away.

Read 12.43-45. What is the point of this story Jesus tells? How does it apply to the Pharisees he is talking to? How might it apply to unbelievers living in our day?

Read 12.46-50. What is the point of this encounter? How does being Jesus' family encourage you? How should that affect your practice of your faith day to day?

How do these strong warnings to those who reject Jesus make you think about people you know who reject Jesus?

Is the death and resurrection of Jesus the unshakeable center of your faith? How can that protect you if there aren't any "signs" given to you when you want them?