

Bible Study Questions

Despised and Rejected – Mark 6:1-6

Focus

Like God's prophets who throughout history were rejected by God's own people, so too Jesus is rejected by His own people – that is, those in His hometown who would have known Him best. A passage like this can help us discern our own response to Jesus. But it also helps us understand something about the gospel – that God's methods seem so surprising to sinful human beings – that the Messiah would come from this place and be like this, seems so unbelievable.

Read

[Mark 6:1-6](#)

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Mark 6 which can be found on our [website](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Jesus returns to His hometown of Nazareth. What do you know about Nazareth?
2. How do the people of Nazareth respond to Jesus in this passage?
3. What's insinuated in the questions they ask about Jesus?
4. What wrong conclusions are they drawing?
5. Can you think of any examples from the Old Testament that prove the point of Jesus' statement in verse 4? Why are God's prophets so often treated with dishonor?
6. In what sense could Jesus not do any mighty works while in Nazareth?

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Closing Reflection and Application

7. Mark's Gospel up to this point has included two major sections – the first is 1:1-3:6 and the second is 3:7-6:6 (beginning with 6:7, Jesus' ministry will begin to expand beyond Galilee). Both sections conclude with Jesus being rejected. What conclusions (if any) do you think we should draw from that?
8. How do you think it's possible for people to see what Jesus has done and be astonished by it, yet not believe in Him?
9. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. What does Paul say here about the cross, humility, and suffering? How does this help shed light on Mark 6:1-6?
10. What is it about Jesus and the gospel that causes people to stumble today?
11. Do you know of anyone who is offended by Jesus? What are some of the reasons for them taking offense to Him?
12. Is there anything about Jesus and the gospel that you're in danger of taking offence at?
13. If Jesus had done mighty works that day in Nazareth, how might Him doing so have undermined His character and His very mission?
14. How might Jesus' 'inability' to do mighty works in Nazareth help us further understand the nature of the gospel?
15. This passage is a tragedy for the people of Nazareth. Compare Jesus' response in Mark 6:6a with Luke 7:9. Which response from Jesus do you hope to receive?