

Mark 6:1-6a Faith and Family

Introduction

- Talk about your week so far. How is it going?
- What do you remember from the sermon on Sunday?

Read Mark 6:1-6a

1. Faith

- Jesus goes back to his hometown, Nazareth, where he was brought up.
- The last time he went back it didn't go that well. (**Luke 4:16-30**)
- Would you want to go back?
- They rejected him because they knew him well.
- How does the phrase 'familiarity breeds contempt' apply in the church? How does it apply to us?
- What sort of things do we find familiar and so lose respect for? (Familiar passages, sin list, communion, hymns we sing often.)
- Their lack of faith limited what Jesus could do. How does our lack of faith limit what Jesus can do through us?
- What can we do to change that?

2. Family

- What is your relationship with your family like? Are they disciples? Do they respect your faith? Do they support you in your faith? Share about your family.
- How is our faith affected by our family?
- What is the best thing we can do to help build the faith of our family? (Be strong and consistent in our faith.)
- Suggest a prayer list to pray for the needs of each other's families.
- What is encouraging about Jesus family? (Though they didn't believe initially they did later and became pillars in the early church.)
- See following passages:-

John 7:5, Acts 1:14, Acts 12:1-3, 17, 15:13 Jude v1

- Remember Jude's (Judas') advice in his letter. **Jude v22-23**

Conclusion

- What do we learn from these 6 sort verses?
- The people of Nazareth were "impressed" with Jesus and His wisdom and mighty power, yet their familiarity with Him and His family caused them to remain in unbelief.
- It is easy to disrespect the familiar. It is easy to think, I know this and I've heard this before. Easy to focus on the messenger and not the message.
- Our lack of faith severely restricts what God can do through us
- Even Jesus had opposition from his family; it is not surprising we do too.
- Rejection is a part of the Christian life. This rejection of Jesus served as an object lesson for His disciples, who would also experience rejection of their mission (cf. 6:10, 11).
- We can expect to face the world's rejection as we deliver the message of salvation in Christ. We are not responsible for how people respond to the message. We are only responsible for delivering the message.
- We don't know what affect our faith will have on our families long term. Jesus' brothers believed and led the Jerusalem church, wrote letters we still have and had descendants, grandchildren who we know were faithful.