

Mark 6

Jesus in His Hometown and Beyond (vs. 1-13)

How do the people in the synagogue of Jesus' hometown (Nazareth) initially respond to his teaching?

Why do some of them "take offense" at him?

The Greek word for "took offense" is the word *scandalon*, from which we get our word "scandal." In this case, it means to be tripped up or caught in a trap. Read Isaiah 8:13-15. What is it about Jesus that makes him a "stumbling block" even today? How do his words or his behavior "offend" or disturb you?

What is Jesus amazed by in Nazareth?

Instead of sticking around, trying to prove himself in Nazareth, what does he do next? Who benefits from the disciples' mission?

For discussion: Do you believe Jesus' disciples still do these sorts of things?

John the Baptist's Execution (vs. 14-29)

Whom do some people say Jesus is?

Why had Herod arrested John the Baptist? Describe Herodias' plot to have John killed.

Why do you think Mark tells the story of John the Baptist and Herod at this point?

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (vs. 30-44)

Describe the apostles' emotional and physical state in vs. 31-32.

What does Jesus recommend for them?

What is Jesus' emotion when he sees the large crowd who has followed them around the lake? Do you think the disciples feel the same way?

When the disciples ask Jesus to send the crowd away so they can buy themselves some food, why do you think Jesus gives the disciples the responsibility of feeding them? (See John 21:15-17)

Read Psalm 23. To this large crowd of Jews, who would have known Psalm 23 from memory, what might Jesus be trying to say about himself through this event?

How does Jesus take care of his disciples' hunger in the midst of their service? (Note the number of basketfuls of leftovers)

In vs. 52, Mark says that the disciples had "not understood about the loaves." What do you think they missed?

Jesus Walks on the Water (vs. 45-56)

Compare these verses with Matthew's version of this event in Matt. 14:22-36. For discussion: Does it bother you that the two accounts differ?

What does Matthew record as the response of the disciples after Jesus gets in the boat?

In both accounts, Jesus' tremendous healing ministry at Gennesaret begins with "When they had crossed over." For the disciples, who had made several lake crossings to this point, how might this one be different?

What have you learned through Mark 6 about Jesus' identity that will encourage you in your current situation?

Sermon Notes

Mark 6

Title: _____ **Passage:** _____

What I needed to hear today: (something to remember, put into practice, change in my thinking, change in my behavior)