

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

1 Jesus left that part of the country and returned with his disciples to Nazareth, his hometown. 2 The next Sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. They asked, "Where did he get all this wisdom and the power to perform such miracles?" 3 Then they scoffed, "He's just a carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And his sisters live right here among us." They were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.

4 Then Jesus told them, "A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his relatives and his own family." 5 And because of their unbelief, he couldn't do any miracles among them except to place his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Disciples

Then Jesus went from village to village, teaching the people. 7 And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them authority to cast out evil spirits. 8 He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. 9 He allowed them to wear sandals but not to take a change of clothes.

10 "Wherever you go," he said, "stay in the same house until you leave town. 11 But if any place refuses to welcome you or listen to you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate."

12 So the disciples went out, telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. 13 And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil.

Mark 6:1-13 (NLT)

Observation (what does the text say?) **Interpretation** (what does it mean?) **Application** (what does it mean to me/us?)

Discussion/Topic Starters (Ice Breakers)

- What's the one story that seems to always get told/retold when you go back home (for v.1-6)
- When traveling, do you tend to over pack or under pack (for v.6-13)
- O: What things in the text strike you or jump out at you? Why?

V1-6a

- O: What happens right before (Mark 4:35-5:43) Jesus' visit's his home town?
- O: What does the question & sarcastic observations in v.2-3 reveal? Why do you think the town's people took such offense?
- I: Based on this passage, how does faith play a role in ministry (v.5-6)
- A: What are the stumbling blocks that keep you from fully embracing faith in Jesus?

V6b-13

Note: Keith's sermon broke down the "parts" of this calling from Jesus as 1) Jesus modeled the ministry (v.6b) 2) the corporate nature of ministry (v.7a) 3) power for ministry (v.7b) 4) provisions for ministry/traveling light (v.8-11) 5) practice for ministry (go & do it!) (v.12-13)

- O: What is the significance/purpose of the disciple's assignment (p.s. We know it's a short-term trip, see Luke 22:35)? Couldn't it just have been achieved by Jesus Himself? What's the point?
- O: Compare the disciples' message (v.12-13) with John's (1:4) and Jesus' (1:14-15).
- O: What are all the needs/benefits encompassed in the disciples message (v.12-13)
- I: What benefits were gained by the disciples in regards to this assignment? By Jesus? By the people? By the kingdom?
- I: Why do you think Jesus told His disciples to "travel light" during this mission (v.8-9)? What's the significance of this? How should we apply this approach today?
- I: Why does Jesus send out His disciples in pairs? Wouldn't sending them out individually mean they could reach more places?
- A: Where has/is God sending you to tell about His kingdom? How is it going? What help do you need?

Recommended Follow-up:

- **Pray:** Pray that our church would be a place that welcomes Jesus, embraces Jesus... as well as that we would be a church that would responding the sending that is laid out in this passage
- **Respond:** Review the pattern of ministry in v. 6-13, reflect on how it could take more root in your life/ministry.
- **Read:** Next week's sermon (8/15/2010) will focus on Mark 6:30-56. Take time prior to next Sunday to read & study the passage, pray through the passage, meditate on the passage, etc.

* As discussed in Riverside's HGLT (Home Group Leader Training), these guides are to be starting points for home group leaders to develop their own guides and approaches to leading group discussions. This is a resource tool, not a rigid "go through this guide word-for-word." There are intentionally too many questions for a single home group time. These guides rely heavily on a few different study guides; including "LifeChange Series" (ISBN 0891099107), N.T. Wright's guide (ISBN 9780830821822), James Hoover's guide (ISBN 9780830830046), and the Serendipity NT for Groups by the Young Life ministry (ISBN is N/A)