

## Mark 6:1-6 – Jesus Rejected At Home

# Leader's Guide

March 17, 2019

### 1. Read Mark 6:1-6 to familiarize yourself with the passage. What did you find most surprising? What is one thing you want to remember from this passage?

Mark 6:1–6 (ESV)

#### Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

**6** He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? <sup>3</sup> Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to them, **“A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.”** <sup>5</sup> And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. <sup>6</sup> And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

### 2. In Mark 6, Jesus was rejected by his family and the small town where he grew up. The pain of rejection by those we love is painful. In what ways do Christians face rejection for their faith today, just like Jesus? What do these verses teach us to expect when we are rejected for our faith and how to suffer well? (Mark 13:13, Revelation 2:10, Romans 8:17, 1 Peter 4:19, 2 Corinthians 4:8-10).

In what ways do Christians face rejection for their faith today, just like Jesus?

- Students in high school face pressure for not going along with the crowd.
- There is pressure to adopt a more progressive social agenda, such as endorsement of the LGBTQ life. (There is a difference between loving the sinner and loving the sin.)
- There is pressure to accept all religions as the same.
- There is pressure to endorse materialism and success as our source of identity.

*And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. Mark 13:13 (ESV)*

- Expect we will face suffering for our faith. We must not wilt or capitulate. Those who are true Christians will not turn away from Christ in times of difficulty but will follow Christ even when it is costly. Those who accept suffering for their faith and endure it, will be saved.

*Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. Revelation 2:10 (ESV)*

- Don't fear times of suffering. The devil may attack us in those times but just like Job, he is limited by God when it comes to what he can do against us. Suffering for our faith is a time of testing of our faith. In addition, suffering doesn't go on forever. In this case, it was ten days. Those who embrace suffering for their faith even if they have to face death, must remember they will be saved eternally and rewarded by God.

*and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. Romans 8:17 (ESV)*

- Suffering for Christ successfully confirms our relationship with Christ. Just as Christ was richly rewarded when he suffered successfully according to his father's will, even unto death, we can expect to be richly rewarded for suffering successfully, even unto death.

*Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. 1 Peter 4:19 (ESV)*

- Sometimes it is God's will for us to suffer for our faith. We should place our life in God's hands when suffering for our faith and go out of our way to do good to others. Doing good to others when we are suffering is difficult, but it keeps us from becoming self-focused.

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (ESV)*

- Suffering draws us closer to Christ. We will never be closer to Christ than when we lean on him in our times of suffering.

3. **Eve chose to not believe God's words and it plunged the world into sin. Ancient Israel chose to not believe God's Words and it kept them out of the Promised Land. In Mark 6, we see another example of the consequences that come from unbelief. What was the consequence the people of Nazareth suffered? What can we learn from their example? What do these verses teach us about the consequences of unbelief? (Mark 4:15, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Hebrews 3:19, Ephesians 4:18, John 3:36, Mark 9:24.)**

What was the consequence the people of Nazareth suffered because of their lack of faith in Jesus? What can we learn from their example?

- Jesus didn't do many miraculous works in their community.
- Jesus did most of his miracles in response to those who put their faith and trust in him. Last week we saw this with Jairus and the bleeding woman. God healed them in response to their faith. Nothing has changed. According to Hebrews 11:6, God's miraculous answers to prayer usually take place as a response to our faith in Christ and our trust in Christ.

*And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. Mark 4:15 (ESV)*

- If our heart is hard, the devil will try to take away the truth of God from our life so there is no chance of it penetrating our heart.

*In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4 (ESV)*

- Satan blinds the eyes of unbelievers so what is completely obvious to us about sin, grace, and truth is impossible for unbelievers to comprehend.

*So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief. Hebrews 3:19 (ESV)*

- Unbelief keeps people out of heaven, just as it kept the Israelites out of the Promised Land.

*They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.*

*Ephesians 4:18 (ESV)*

- Unbelief darkens people's understanding of God and the way life is supposed to work. Unbelief leads to greater levels of sin and hardness of heart.

*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. John 3:36 (ESV)*

- Unbelief keeps people out of heaven.

*Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Mark 9:24 (ESV)*

- If we are struggling with belief in Christ and obedience to Christ, we can cry out to God and he will help us!