

Applications

1. Don't be surprised when we meet people hardened in unbelief that persecute us. Jesus experienced the same thing from his family and home town.
2. An unbelieving heart will not experience the transforming power of Christ.
3. As Christians, if we live our daily lives without faith, we should not expect to be rewarded by God for our faith.
 1. How often do we pray? James 5:16 that says the prayer of a righteous person makes a big difference. Do we live like we believe this?
 2. How often do we read and memorize the Word of God? Matthew 4:4 tells us we do not live by bread alone but every word that comes from the mouth of God. Do we live like we believe this?

Life Group Questions

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?
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 about being rejected for our faith and how to suffer well for our faith? (Mark 13:13, Revelation 2:10, Romans 8:17, 1 Peter 4:19, 2 Corinthians 4:8-10).
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.)



Mark 6:1-6 – Jesus Rejected At Home

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Background

Jesus was rejected by his family.

And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind." Mark 3:21 (ESV)

For not even his brothers believed in him. John 7:5 (ESV)

Jesus was rejected by his home town.

Luke 4.

And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." Luke 4:23 (ESV)

When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away. Luke 4:28-30 (ESV)

He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. Mark 6:1 (ESV)

Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"... John 1:46 (ESV)

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

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?...” Mark 6:2 (ESV)

What can we expect from unbelieving hearts?

1. Unbelieving hearts will downplay the work of God in our life.

...Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? Mark 6:2 (ESV)

The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?” John 7:15 (ESV)

If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.” John 10:37–38 (ESV)

2. Unbelieving hearts will attack our background.

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?”... Mark 6:3 (ESV)

They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” John 6:42 (ESV)

3. Unbelieving hearts will attack us!

And they took offense at him. Mark 6:3 (ESV)

If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. John 15:18 (ESV)

When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next,... “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.” Matthew 10:23–25 (ESV)

Unbelieving hearts are sometimes be found in those closest to us.

And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” Mark 6:4 (ESV)

Unbelieving hearts will not experience the transforming power of Christ.

And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. Mark 6:5 (ESV)

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

And he marveled because of their unbelief... Mark 6:6 (ESV)