

Bible Study Guide

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Mark 6:1-6

Larry L. Powell

1. The reason why the people of Nazareth reject Jesus in Mark 6:1-6 has never been entirely clear.
2. Mark suggests an initial positive reception , but somewhere in verses 2-3 everything changes.
3. In Mark 6:2, the people asked, "Where did this man get all this?"
4. In a social system where status was understood as fixed, your status at birth defined who you would always be.
5. The people of Nazareth indicate this negative perception when they identify Jesus as a "carpenter" and as the "son of Mary."
6. Because the people of Nazareth think they know who Jesus is, they end up asking disdainfully, "Who does he think he is?"
7. For Mark, the important question keeps coming around to "who do you -- the reader -- say that Jesus is?"
8. But what about Jesus' apparent inability to perform miracles?
9. If Jesus while in Nazareth is not regarded as capable of healing, any healing that does happen won't be attributed to him. 10.

10. We are living in a world that is more and more characterized by unbelief.
11. For Jesus, the people of His hometown and their reaction to Him seemed to surprise Him.
12. Faith was not a necessary condition in any absolute sense for healing. God's freedom cannot be limited in that way.
13. When Jesus came to Nazareth he put himself to a severe test.
14. Jesus came as a Rabbi to His hometown and not just for a visit with family.
15. The people of Nazareth despised Jesus because he was a working man.
16. . To us that is Jesus' glory, because it means that God, when he came to earth, claimed no exemptions.
17. Our churches would be different places if congregations would only remember that they preach more than half the sermon.
18. There is laid on us the tremendous responsibility that we can either help or hinder the work of Jesus Christ. We can open the door wide to Him--or we can slam it in His face.