



# Don't Mishandle the Familiar

Date Delivered	May 31, 2026
Lesson Number	9
Primary Scripture	Mark 6:1-5
Summary	Maintain reverence for what has become familiar. Honor (timē) recognizes true value and shapes our capacity to receive. Familiarity can progress to indifference, offense, unbelief, and ultimately limited reception—without diminishing God's power, but limiting our participation in it.

## HIM: The Gospel of Christ According to Mark – Lesson Nine: Don't Mishandle the Familiar

**Date:** May 31, 2026



**Primary Text:** Mark 6:1-5

### INTRODUCTION

- Maintain your reverence for the familiar.

**Key Kingdom Principle:** Your measure of honor determines your capacity to receive.

**Key Thought:** In the Kingdom, people do not receive according to what is available; they receive according to what they recognize and properly value.

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## I. THE STRATEGY OF DARKNESS

### The Battle Over Perception

- One of Satan's primary strategies is to distort the value of Jesus.
- Throughout Scripture, Jesus' identity was continually challenged:
  - "If You are the Son of God..."
  - "Is this not the carpenter?"
  - "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?"
  - "He casts out demons by Beelzebub."

**Key Principle:** People rarely receive beyond what they value.

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## II. THE CONSEQUENCE OF DISTORTED VALUE

### When Jesus' Value Is Diminished

- Honor, awe, and expectation decrease
- Faith is diminished
- Our posture toward receiving Him is altered

**Key Thought:** You cannot fully receive from the Christ you have reduced.

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### III. UNDERSTANDING HONOR

**Scripture:** Mark 6:4 — “A prophet is not without honor...”

**Greek Word:** *timē* (tee-may)

**Meaning:** Value, worth, esteem

**Key Thought:** Honor is recognizing and responding appropriately to value.

### IV. HONOR DETERMINES RECEPTION

**Key Principle:** We receive according to what we recognize.

#### Honor Produces

- Expectancy
- Humility
- Attentiveness
- Receptivity

**Key Thought:** The difference is often not what is offered, but the value assigned to it.

### V. HONOR AS STEWARDSHIP

**Key Thought:** To honor something is to steward its value correctly.

**Kingdom Principle:** What you honor, you steward. What you steward, increases.

#### Stewardship Determines Increase (Examples)

- Revelation
- Relationships
- Opportunities
- Assignments
- Spiritual gifts

**Key Thought:** God often measures our readiness for increase by how we steward what we currently value.

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## VI. LACK OF HONOR VS. DISHONOR

### Lack of Honor (Often Passive)

- Taking things for granted
- Becoming overly familiar
- Losing appreciation
- Neglecting value

**Key Thought:** Lack of honor overlooks value.

### Dishonor (More Active)

- Criticism
- Contempt
- Ridicule
- Rejection
- Undermining

**Key Thought:** Dishonor devalues value.

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## VII. THE PROBLEM IN NAZARETH

**Scripture:** Mark 6:2–3

**Key Thought:** Nazareth acknowledged Jesus' wisdom and miracles but failed to recognize His true worth.

- Their reasoning: we know His family, we know His trade, and we know where He came from.

**Key Principle:** They thought they knew Jesus because they knew His history.

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## VIII. THE DANGER OF FAMILIARITY

**Key Thought:** What we stop valuing, we stop receiving from.

### When Honor Declines

- Expectation declines
- Sensitivity dulls
- Faith weakens
- Spiritual hunger decreases

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## IX. THE PROGRESSION OF UNBELIEF

### Stage One: Familiarity Becomes Indifference

**Indifference is:** loss of attentiveness, wonder, and appreciation.

**Key Thought:** The greatest threat to something valuable is often not opposition—it is neglect.

### Stage Two: Indifference Becomes Offense

**Key Thought:** What we stop valuing, we eventually struggle to tolerate.

### **Offense often targets:**

- Correction
- Accountability
- Authority
- Truth

## **Stage Three: Offense Becomes Unbelief**

### **Offense causes us to question:**

- Motives
- Intentions
- Truth
- Promises

**Result:** trust becomes suspicion, confidence becomes doubt, and expectation becomes skepticism.

**Key Thought:** What the heart rejects, the mind eventually justifies.

## **Stage Four: Unbelief Limits Reception**

**Key Principle:** Unbelief does not diminish God's power—it diminishes our participation in it.

**Scripture:** Mark 6:5 — "He could do no mighty work there..."

**Key Thought:** The opportunity remained available, but unbelief limited what could be received.

## **X. THE ROOT ISSUE IN NAZARETH**

**Key Thought:** The issue was not information—it was perception.

- They had information about Jesus.
  - They lacked revelation of who He truly was.
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## XI. HONOR FLOWS FROM REVELATION

### Contrast

- Nazareth saw: "The carpenter."
  - The woman with the issue of blood saw: "The answer."
  - Jairus saw: "My only hope."
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## XII. THE ANTIDOTE TO INDIFFERENCE

**Key Thought:** Familiarity is inevitable. Indifference is optional.

### The Antidote

- Intentional gratitude
- Intentional honor
- Wonder
- Appreciation

**Key Principle:** Honor keeps us aware of value. Gratitude keeps us aware of blessing.

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## CLOSING THOUGHT: REVEAL CHRIST CORRECTLY

### Our Assignment

1. Reveal Christ clearly

2. Reflect His nature
3. Represent Him faithfully

**Final Thought:** If people truly see Jesus for who He is, they will never be satisfied with anything less.

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## Key Scriptures to Meditate and Memorize

- **Mark 6:1-5**
- **Mark 6:4**
- **Mark 6:5**