Sermon Discussion Questions

For the Week of July 23, 2023

Sermon Information:

Rejecting Jesus Matthew 13:53-14:12

Beware of the rejection that accompanies <u>familiarity</u>.

Beware of the rejection that rebels against authority.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Have you ever had a "homecoming" experience where you saw old family and friends that you grew up with? What was that experience like?
- 2. Read Matthew 13:53-58. How could people hear the teaching of Jesus and see his miracles and still not believe in Him? What should we learn from this?
- 3. Explain what Jesus meant when he said, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household." Has familiarity with God or the Word of God hindered your ability to truly trust and follow Him?
- 4. Read Matthew 14:1-4 and Psalm 2:2-3. How do Herod's actions in this story give us a picture of the way that we all rebel against the authority of God? Is there an area of your life where you find the commands/authority of God to be most restrictive?
- 5. What can we as followers of Jesus learn from the example of John the Baptist in this story? Consider Jesus' words in Matthew 5:10-12.