

## The Gospel of Mark 6:1-13 (ESV)

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.

<sup>7</sup> And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup> He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— <sup>9</sup> but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup> And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup> And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as

a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup> And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

### Opening Discussion Questions

- a. Is there an annoying story from your childhood that family or friends always tell?
- b. If you had to travel for a work assignment, what items do you think you would pack to have a successful trip?

### Bible Study Questions

1. Where is Jesus’ “hometown”? What was its reputation? (See *Matt. 2:19-23, John 1:46, John 19:19*)

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2. What is the significance of Jesus’ visit to Nazareth? Where does this visit take place during his public ministry? (See *Matt. 13:53-58, Luke 4:16-30, Acts 9, generally*)

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3. Discuss the reasons why hearers were “astonished” and some took “offense” at Jesus’ teaching. What do you think he was saying? (See *Isaiah 61:1-10*)

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4. In your journey of faith, have you ever felt “not without honor except in your own town, among your relatives and in your own home”? (verse 4)

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5. In context to his previous miracles, Jesus could do “no mighty work” in Nazareth and only healed a few people. Does this passage support the notion that the power of Jesus can only operate in conjunction with faith? Are there limits on Jesus’ power? (See *Matt. 9:22, Luke 17:19, Mark 9:24, Matt. 19:14-21*)

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6. Compare Jesus’ attitude toward the unbelief in his hometown in verse 6 with the passage in *Luke 7:1-9*. What is the irony?

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7. Why did Jesus prohibit the Twelve from taking certain items listed in versus? What were the items used for? Does that change your perception on what materials are essentials for ministry? (See *Luke 22:35*)

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8. Jesus give the Twelve instructions in verse 10. What is the cultural significance? (*Matthew 10:10-15, Acts 13:51-52, Luke 9:1-6*)

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9. Describe how the Twelve shared the gospel on their first solo missionary trip. What is the first thing you tell people when sharing the gospel?

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10. What impacted you most about this study? What change would you like to make as a result?

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