

The Gospel of Mark: Session 6

...the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (1:1)

The Power of the Kingdom (Mark 6)

- Rejection at Nazareth (6:1–6)
- Sending out of the Twelve (6:7–13)
- The Death of John the Baptist (6:14–29)
- The Return of the Twelve (6:30–32)
- Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand (6:33–44)
- Jesus Walks on the Water (6:45–52)
- Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret (6:53–56)

Questions to Consider as You Read

6:1–6: Why are the people of Nazareth offended by Jesus? What seems to be his shortcoming in their eyes? Mark 5:20 tells us that the people of the Decapolis *marveled* at what Jesus had done for the Gerasene Demoniac. Now in Mark 6:6, Jesus is *marveling* at the unbelief of Nazareth.

6:7–13: We generally agree that our appearances say something about us. Do Jesus's instructions convey a message of preparation and self-sufficiency or intentional reliance on others? Who are the Twelve to depend on for their physical needs?

6:7–32: Notice the "Mark sandwich" consisting of Jesus sending out the twelve, the death of John the Baptist, and the return of the twelve from their mission. Why might Mark have told the story in this way? Should the Twelve expect any different fate than John the Baptist?

6:33–44: Jesus saw the people as being like "sheep without a shepherd" in 6:34. What did God promise His people Israel in Jeremiah 3:15? If Jesus physically feeds them in this passage, then what might we expect Him to do for their spiritual needs?

6:45–56: Mark 6:48 says Jesus intended to pass by the disciples in the boat. This doesn't mean Jesus was trying to hide from them but actually desired to come alongside them so that they indeed would see Him. Read Job 9:8, 11 and Exodus 33:18–23. With these passages in mind, why might Jesus pass by the disciples in the boat?