

## Notes

## DISCIPLE 1.0 Rejected In His Hometown

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Text: Matthew 13:53-58

### Introduction

#### LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.*

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- [For those who have studied philosophy:] How do you think the Enlightenment has taught people to think “from the ground up” causing people to stumble over Jesus’ humanity?
- Why do you think that during the 1<sup>st</sup> centuries after Christ, it was more common for people disbelieve in Jesus’ humanity, than for them not to believe He was God?
- Have you ever found the ordinariness of Jesus’ family (the church) to cause you to take offense at Jesus? How about the ordinariness of how we received the Scriptures? How does this relate to our text?
- All too often, that is how we want to win people to Jesus: We try to make our church services into something more like a circus than worship, in order to show people how exciting it can be. Are we doing what Jesus was unwilling to do?
- What is the difference between saying that Jesus did not do many mighty works because of their lack of faith vs. their unbelief? How do we know from the text that it was the unbelief of their offense that caused this rather than their lack of faith?
- Why is this text *not* teaching that one’s weak faith keeps them from getting a miracle from Jesus?
- How does the account of Jesus feeding the multitude show us how Christ brings grace to us through very ordinary means? How does the church offer this same grace today?

#### I. Astonished (53-54)

A. Jesus is on a mission... so he goes to church.

B. *Astonished, Incredulous, Perplexed, Dumbfounded.*

i. Matt. 7:28

ii. Matt. 19:25

iii. Matt. 22:33

#### II. Offended (55-57)

A. What offends them?

i. His humanity; his humdrum, humble family history.

ii. Where did this man get all these things?

- B. Because they were offended, they rejected Jesus.
- i. Jesus identifies himself as a prophet.
  
  - ii. Prophets call people back to obedience to God's ways.
  
  - iii. The church is called to be a prophetic voice.
    - a) It starts with a prophetic life.
  
    - b) We too will be rejected.
- C. What aspects of Jesus' *humanity*, of his *humble history*, of his *ordinariness* tempts you to stumble?
- i. How about his church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. How about the Scriptures?
    - a) *Organic inspiration*.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - b) The Canon
- D. The World Requires the Church to Stay in Its Place

### III. Obstructed (58)

- A. Obstructed?
- B. Their Offense is Unbelief
- i. Not "lack of faith" (NIV) but "unbelief" (ESV).
    - a) These people lacked faith when Jesus arrived and did miracles (v54).
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
    - b) There is a difference between weak faith (often accompanied by doubts) and the *unbelief of offense!*
  
  - ii. John 6 helps us understand why Jesus *could not* do more miracles.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - iii. Your *little* faith is not what keeps Jesus' from working in your life... even a mustard seed of little faith is enough. It is one's offense with the *ordinariness* of Jesus. An offense which will always be there if you can't accept the humble, ordinary ways of God.

### IV. Offered (14:13-22)

- A. The Feeding of the Multitude
- i. This crowd was not offended at His wisdom.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. Preaching in the Third Reich
- B. Jesus did something *extraordinary* with *ordinary* things.