



## Week of Aug 6 - a

### Scripture: Mt 13:53-58

**Main Idea:** In this passage Jesus goes home. He teaches, as he did through many Jewish towns and villages, here in the place he grew up. But sadly, he is doubted. They knew where Jesus grew up, but they couldn't believe who he had become (vs 58 "because of their unbelief"). Sometimes it is those closest to the truth, who have the hardest time believing it.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** How do you think Jesus felt when people who have known him his entire life wouldn't follow his teachings?

**Grade school:** How do you think your family and friends would react if you told them you were Superman/woman? Would they laugh at you? And If you were able to do tricks to prove that you were, do you think they would believe you? Probably not. BUT if you went to a place no one knew you and did those tricks they might believe you.

**Teen:** Why could these people not see who Jesus really was? Scripture tells us to walk by faith not by sight (2 Cor 5:7) If we are walking by sight as the Nazarites did, could we also miss seeing Jesus and what He is trying to do in our lives? Why did Jesus not do many miracles there?

**Adult:** Do you feel like you live in someone's shadow? Maybe not everywhere or with everyone, but some? Jesus is being called into question not for something he has done, but because the Jews in the synagogue knew his history and his family. Jesus could stand on his own and was performing miracles, until he returned home. When you go home, do you feel that you have a reputation or that there are expectations based on your family? Maybe for things you actually did do, or maybe like Jesus, for something that family did or didn't do. In your experience, are those general judgments usually right or wrong?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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PRAY: For God to help us in our belief of the truth of his word in a world that continues to doubt.

#### August Memory Verse:

**1 Peter 5:7 (ESV)**  
**7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.**



## Week of Aug 6 - b

### Scripture: Mt 14:13-17

**Main Idea:** Jesus has become so popular, that even though he withdraws periodically to remote places, crowds would travel on foot to get to him. This crowd may have been as many as 20,000 people (5,000 men). They are some distance from their homes, hungry and no place to quickly or easily get food. It is not surprising that Jesus sees them and has compassion on them. He heals their sick until late in the day. His apostles point out the problem of food and a solution, advising Jesus to dismiss them so they can travel to villages and get food. Jesus then surprisingly tells his apostles they should give them something to eat. They would eventually learn, that with enough faith, they could move a mountain. (Mt 17:20)

#### Questions

**Preschool:** How do you think the disciples felt when they watched Jesus multiply the bread and fish?

**Grade school:** If you saw Jesus feed that many people with that small amount of food, do you think you would still NOT be sure he was really Jesus? How many things would you have to see Jesus do before you finally believed in him?

**Teen:** Jesus provided a physical need to the people when he gave them food, but he provided a spiritual need to the apostles with that same miracle. What was it that Jesus was teaching his disciples? Remember, God can work many different things, in many different ways, and give each person what they need from it.

**Adult:** Do you think these people knew they would be part of a large crowd? Should they have been a little more prepared as they left home to go to Jesus? Or do you think they might have had other provisions which were eaten earlier in the day? Or were they so excited to see this man doing miraculous works and they just rushed to see him? It's evening and they are far from villages, so solutions are few. How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus told them to feed the crowd?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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PRAY: For God to help us pray more and with greater faith

#### August Memory Verse:

**1 Peter 5:7 (ESV)**  
**7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.**