"And They Took Offense: Rejecting Jesus?"

~ Mark 6:1-13

July 4, 2021 ~ Pastor Kurt Ebert



1. The issue is with those who are too <u>close</u>, not too <u>far</u>.

"He went away from there and came to his hometown, ... 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? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary ...?" And they took offense at him.

(Mark 6:1-3)

2. God's mission will not be **stopped**.

And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching. And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two... (*Mark* 6:6-7a)

3. Welcomed into the family by grace alone.

He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

(John 1:11–13)

Text for Prayer and Personal Reflection

"He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him."

(Mark 6:1)

In what ways is your present still affected by your past and your upbringing?

"Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?"

(Mark 6:2b)

How are you influenced by the opinions and words of others?

Whose approval is still difficult to obtain?

"And Jesus called the twelve and began to send them out two by two..." So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.

(Mark 6:7a, 12)

What connections might there be between Jesus' experience of rejection in Nazareth and his desire to send his disciples to the surrounding cities and towns? Where are we being invited to share repentance and faith in Jesus?