### Mark

## Chapter 6

1Thereafter, he left that place and went with his disciples to the town where he’d grown up. 2And when the Sabbath arrived, he entered their synagogue and started teaching.  
  
Well, most of those who heard him were shocked, and asked:  
  
 ‘Where did he get all these things? Why has such wisdom been given to this man, and why are such powerful deeds being performed through his hands?  
  
 3‘For isn’t this the carpenter, Mary’s son, and the brother of James, JoSeph, Judas, and Simon? And aren’t his sisters here among us?’  
  
So they were stumbled over him.  
  
4And Jesus told them:  
  
 ‘A Prophet doesn’t go without honor anywhere – other than in his own home, among his relatives, and in the area where he grew up.’  
  
5So because of this, he wasn’t able to preform any powerful deeds there, apart from laying his hands on a few [sick ones], whom he cured. 6For he was amazed by their lack of faith.  
  
  
  
Well from there, he traveled around to the local villages in a circuit, teaching.  
  
7Then he called the 12 and started sending them out by twos, and he gave them power over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them not to carry anything with them other than a walking stick… [yes,] no bread, no food pouch, nor copper money in their sashes. 9And he told them not to tie on their sandals or to [carry extra] underclothes.  
  
10For he said:  
  
 ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay in that place until you get ready to leave. 11But in those places where they don’t invite you in or listen to you, shake the dirt off your feet as you leave, as a witness against them.’  
  
 ‘Truly I say to you, it shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgement, than for that city.’ [spurious words, copied from Matthew 10:15]  
  
12So they all went out and preached, calling for people to repent, 13as they were casting out many demons and greasing sick people with oil to cure them.  
  
  
  
14Meanwhile, King Herod had heard about how famous [Jesus] was becoming.  
  
For some people were saying:  
  
 ‘John, the man who did the immersing [in water], has been raised from the dead! And now there are great powers working through him.’  
  
15However, others were saying that he was EliJah, and some were saying that he was a Prophet like one of the Prophets [of old].  
  
16But after he’d listened to all of this, Herod concluded:  
  
 ‘The John whom I beheaded has been raised!’  
  
17For it was Herod himself that had [ordered] John arrested and locked in prison over the matter of his taking Herodias (his brother’s woman), 18since John kept telling Herod that he’d broken the Law by taking her. 19That’s why Herodias hated him and wanted him killed… However [until then], she’d been unable to do so.  
  
20Herod was actually afraid of John, because he knew that he was a righteous and holy man. As a result, he kept him safely [locked away]. For after he’d listened to him for a while, Herod had no idea what to do with him. So, he gladly just kept on listening to him.  
  
21However, there came a day that turned out to be convenient for Herod… It was when he was holding a banquet to celebrate his [own] birthday. He had invited several high-ranking men, military commanders, and the foremost people of Galilee.  
  
22There, Herod and Herodias’ daughter entered and danced before them. This pleased Herod and those at the table so much, that the king said to the little girl:  
  
 ‘Ask for whatever you wish and, I’ll give it to you!’  
  
23Yes, he swore to her:  
  
 ‘Whatever you ask of me I’ll give you, up to half of my kingdom!’  
  
24So she went out and asked her mother:  
  
 ‘What should I ask for?’  
  
And [her mother] replied:  
  
 ‘Ask for the head of John, the one who does the immersing!’  
  
25So she ran back to the king and said:  
  
 ‘I want you to give me the head of John the Immerser on a platter… Right now.’  
  
26And although this deeply disturbed the king, he didn’t want to ignore her because of the oaths, and because of those who were reclining at the table.  
  
27So the king immediately sent his bodyguard and commanded him to bring back [John’s] head. And that’s when [the guard] went off and beheaded John in prison, 28after which he brought in his head on a platter and gave it to the young girl, who gave it to her mother.  
  
29Well when [John’s] disciples heard about this, they came and took his corpse and laid it in a tomb.  
  
  
  
30Meanwhile, all of the Apostles had assembled with Jesus, and they were reporting to him about everything that they’d been teaching and doing.  
  
31So he told them:  
  
 ‘I want you to come with me to a private place where you can rest up for a while.’  
  
Of course, he said this because there were always so many people coming and going that they didn’t have enough free time to even eat a meal. 32So they all traveled by boat to a remote place where they thought they could be by themselves.  
  
33However, some people noticed them leaving, and they started telling many others, who all ran from the cities on foot and got ahead of them. 34So when [Jesus and his Apostles] got out of the boat, they saw an enormous crowd!  
  
Yet, he felt sorry for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and so he started teaching them many things.  
  
35Well, it was getting quite late, so the disciples came up to Jesus and said:  
  
 ‘This is the middle of nowhere, and it’s getting late. 36We should send the people off into the countryside and villages around here so that they can buy themselves some food.’  
  
37But [Jesus] said to them:  
  
 ‘Why don’t you give them something to eat?’  
  
And they said:  
  
 ‘Should we really go and buy 200 silver coin’s worth of bread just to feed them?’  
  
38Then [Jesus] asked them:  
  
 ‘How many loaves do you have? Go see!’  
  
And after checking, they said:  
  
 ‘Five [loaves], plus two fish.’  
  
39So he told all the people to lie down on the green grass in rows, 40and they reclined in rows of 50s and 100s.  
  
41Then [Jesus] took the five loaves [of bread] and two fish, and he looked up towards the heavens and spoke a blessing, then he broke up the bread and divided the two fish and started giving it to the disciples so they could set it in front of the people…  
  
42And thereafter, everyone ate until they were full!  
  
43Well, when they went to pick up the scraps, they found they had 12 baskets full, which didn’t even include the fish!  
  
44Yet, there were about 5,000 men who had eaten the bread.  
  
45Then right after that, [Jesus] instructed his disciples to get into their boat and travel ahead of him towards BethSaida, which was across [the lake] on the opposite shore, and he also dismissed the crowd. 46And after excusing himself, he went up the mountain to pray.  
  
  
  
47But then, later that evening (as the boat was well out to sea and [Jesus] was there by himself on the land), 48Jesus could see [from a distance] that they were still out there rowing with all their might, since they had a strong headwind blowing against them.  
  
So the next morning (while it was still dark), he walked out towards them on top of the sea… In fact, he started to walk right past them!  
  
49Well, when they saw him walking on top of the sea, they thought they were seeing a vision, and they started screaming in fright! 50For they all saw him and everyone was deeply disturbed.  
  
But right away, he spoke to them and said:  
  
 ‘Be brave… It’s me! Don’t be afraid.’  
  
51Then he got into the boat with them and the wind died down.  
  
However, all of these events left them stunned, 52because they didn’t really understand the meaning of the bread, since their hearts had been dulled.  
  
  
  
53Well, soon thereafter, they reached land, arriving at GenNesaret, where they docked.  
  
54However, as soon as they got out of the boat, some people recognized [Jesus], 55and they ran [to tell others] throughout all that area. So, many people came to the place where they’d heard Jesus was, carrying their ill to him on cots.  
  
56And thereafter, wherever he entered any village or city (or fields or markets), they’d all bring their sick people, and beg him just to let them touch the fringes of his clothes.  
  
And everyone who touched them were healed.