

WHEN FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT

Mark 6:1-6

“Familiarity Breeds Contempt”

- **New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy**

- *“The better we know people, the more likely we will find fault with them.”*

- **The Free Dictionary**

- *“If you know someone very well or experience something a lot, you stop respecting them.”*

- **Using English.com**

- *“The more you know something or someone, the more you find faults & dislikes about them.”*

- **Bubba.com...**

- *“People’s warts get bigger the more you’re know’em.”*

Mark 6:1-2, *"He ...came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue..."*

- Jesus goes home to Nazareth
- The town where he spent his childhood, **Luke 4:16-24**

Mark 6:2-3, *"...and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him."*

- At first they are amazed at his teaching & his wisdom
- They knew Jesus, his mother, & his siblings
- They became angry; attempted to kill him, **Luke 4:28-29**

Mark 6:4, *"But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house."*

- *"Familiarity breeds contempt", ---NO RESPECT---*
- *Didn't meet their "Messianic" expectations*
- *"Looking a gift horse in the mouth"*

Mark 6:5-6, *"And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching."*

- *Jesus limited his teaching, "Shook the dust off his feet"*
- *Left Nazareth & returned to Capernaum, **Luke 4:31***
- *Deprived of teaching from the Son of God*

Remember Jesus' Earlier Words

- **Mark 4:23-25**, *"If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath."*





WHEN FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT

Lessons Learned

When Familiarity Breeds Contempt...

- We fail to appreciate the message and messenger
 - *"He no longer impresses me!"*
 - *"I've heard that many times before!"*
 - *"Same old thing I've heard for years!"*
 - *"I wish he would preach something different!"*
- We lose respect for those we know well
- We take others for granted, especially fellow Christians
- We fail to appreciate the significance & importance of God's word

When Familiarity Breeds Contempt ...

- Blessings from God no longer available
 - Jesus countrymen did not believe, **Mark 6:5**
 - Caused Jesus to marvel, **Mark. 6:6**
 - They even tried to kill him, **Luke 4:28-29**
 - They became too familiar with Jesus
 - Because of their unbelief, ***"He could do mighty work there..."***, **Mark 6:5**
 - Their unbelief closed the channels of God's grace and mercy too them
 - Their contempt for Jesus caused them to loose access to God's greatest blessings

When Familiarity Breeds Contempt...

- **We can easily develop familiarity with...**

Baptism.....Lord's Supper.....God's Word
.....Prayer.....Assembly.....etc.

Even the blood of Christ, can become familiar

- **Hebrews 10:29**, *"Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"*

When Familiarity Breeds Contempt...

- Channels of God's Grace & Mercy are closed
 - Baptism for remission of sins, **Acts 2:38; 22:16**
 - Communion with Christ, **1 Corinthians 10:16**
 - Growth from God's word, **1 Peter 2:2**
 - Power of prayer to receive mercy, grace, peace, etc., **Hebrews 4:14-16; Philippians 4:6-7**
 - Assembly that stirs up love and good works in us, **Hebrews 10:24-25**

Could contempt bred by familiarity explain dullness in our spiritual lives?

IF FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT IN US...

...Like the people of Nazareth, we will be deprived of great spiritual blessings

...Like the people of Nazareth, Jesus will chose to leave us, and reject us.

...Like the people of Nazareth, we will loose eternal life with our Lord.

REMEMBER, Mark 4:24, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given."