



## Are We Standing Out?

How the crowd reacted to Jesus?

Is this how people view us and other Christians today?

Mark 6:1-3

-Jesus goes to his hometown and speaks at the synagogue.

-He went to the worship service to worship God

-Jesus didn't always agree with the religious leaders but he didn't let that stop him from worshipping God

\*Don't let a church or the people in a church stop you from worshipping God

-Jesus teaches in the synagogue

-The people are stunned by his wisdom and by his miracles

\*Are people stunned by the wisdom of Christians and how God is using them in lives? How are we as Christians standing out in our world?

\*If Jesus stood out for wisdom and working miracles in people's lives why aren't we?

-He was God so of course he would stand out

Acts 4:13

-We see a similar reaction to Peter and John

-These guys weren't God

-They were uneducated, common people

\*Are people stunned by Christians today? Are you sticking out?

\*How are Christians normally viewed in our world today?

-backward

-don't think

-just follow blind faith

-Sadly this perception is right for a lot of Christians (its right for a lot of non Christians too)

-Christians should not be perceived this way

-Jesus was not perceived this way

\*Be a thinking person and one that can explain what they believe and why

\*Don't just use faith and a cop-out

\*There is an element of faith and obedience but it is a reasonable faith and obedience

\*No matter what you believe it takes faith (even evolution takes faith)

\*We need to be better representatives of God by being better able to explain what, we believe and why

\*We need to be better able to explain why we do some things and don't do others

\*\*reading about homosexuality and transgender

-can you explain from the Bible why you hold a position?

-can you explain why God would want us to hold that position?

-can you explain how following God has affected your life and the lives of other?

-We aren't going to be able to proclaim the truth and do miracles like Jesus or probably not even like Peter or John but are we doing the best we can to make ourselves the best representatives of Jesus

How do we do this?

-Acts 4:13

-Why did Peter and John stick out?

-Because they had spent time with Jesus

\*We need to know who Jesus is from the Bible and prayer

\*We need to allow him to change us so we have a story to tell about him

\*We need to be seeking to live obedience so that we can be an example of the benefit of obedience

Some will get it and some won't

Mark 6:5-6

-They marveled at Jesus but they didn't believe

-Jesus is even amazed by their unbelief

-In Luke, it says they tried to stone him

-Even with Jesus right in front of them, it's still all about God working in their heart

-Jesus kept going though because there would be others who would follow him

\*We be the best example for Christ we can because some will believe

\*Are you representing Jesus well with wisdom and the power to change lives?

Small Group Questions

1) What does it mean that our faith is reasonable?

2) What is the general opinion of Christian among people that you know?

3) What are you doing to represent Jesus well?

4) What are you doing to be a better representative of Jesus?

youth lesson