

# WONDERS

Title: **WHAT A PLACE?**

Date: **June 30, 2024**

## Leader's Tips:

- S** - Sensitivity with others. No one should feel left out.
- P** - Participation is encouraged during discussion.
- A** - Acknowledge guests. Make them feel welcome.
- C** - Confidentiality is key. What is shared stays in the group.
- E** - Encourage the group to pray for one another.

## WORSHIP: (15 mins)

### Venue Option 1: Home gatherings

*Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.*

**Venue Option 2: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or Via Online, ask, "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past we.**

## WELCOME:(15 mins): Remember I.W.C.

**I** - Introduce yourself.

**W** - Welcome guests/first-time visitors.

**C** - Cheer up (say a word of encouragement) someone within the group.

**Memory Verse for the week: Ephesians 1:17**

**Main Text: Mark 6:1-6a NLT**

## Ice-breaker Questions:

**Q: Have you ever been to a place that left you speechless because its unsightly and not a place to behold?**

**Q: How familiar are you with your hometown? What do you miss or love about the place you grew up in?**

## WORD (30–45 mins) -

Sadly, in this passage Nazareth, Jesus' hometown was filled with unbelief! That's why He couldn't perform any miracle! What led to this lack of faith in His own community? What can we learn that will help us in our daily walk as followers of our Lord Jesus Christ?

### 1. They were familiar with Jesus

The people of Nazareth saw Jesus as an ordinary person because they had known Him since childhood and were familiar with His background as a carpenter. Their familiarity prevented them from recognizing His true spiritual destiny. They did not see anything extraordinary about Him during the first 30 years of His life. They couldn't see beyond what they had known about Him in the past. **Read Mark 6:3**

**Q: How important is familiarity when it comes to building relationships with people?**

**Q: What problems or disadvantages do you think can arise from becoming too familiar with people you know?**

## Application:

Many of us limited ourselves to what we know about who Jesus is. We often think we know Him well enough because we have been going to church for many years and we are not open to discover new things about who He is... our amazing God!

## 2. They were (deeply) offended – Mark 6:3

Jesus' neighbors in Nazareth were offended by His authority and miracles, and they were unable to reconcile in their minds the ordinary man they had known for 30 years with the person standing before them at that very moment.

**Q: What expectations did the people of Nazareth have about Jesus that offended them?**

**Q: Do you know anyone from your hometown who became rich or famous, leading to gossip and talk in the community?**

**Q: What are healthy ways we can respond when we feel offended?**

## 3. They refused to believe – Mark 6:3

The people of Nazareth didn't want to believe that Jesus could be a divine instrument. Their stubborn unbelief limited Jesus' ability to perform miracles, except for a few healings. Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith, which hindered Him from performing miracles in His own hometown. In contrast, the people of Gennesaret had faith, allowing Jesus to perform many miracles there.

**Read Matthew 14:34-36 NIV**

## Conclusion:

What kind of followers of Jesus do we want to be? Are we open to seek new things and to know more about God or we have settled with old experiences of the past? We live in a world full of doubts about who God is, this is the time to believe God for signs, wonders and miracles. This is the time to be like the people of Gennesaret, a place of faith in God where miracles abound.

**Q: What is your take-away from the discussion?** Partner with someone in prayer.

## WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

**P- Pray** for one another. Ask "*what can I pray for you?*" (7mins.)

**R- Remind** to invite a friend on the next gathering.

**A- Apply** the message during the week.

**Y- Yearn** to share your faith with some one during the week.