

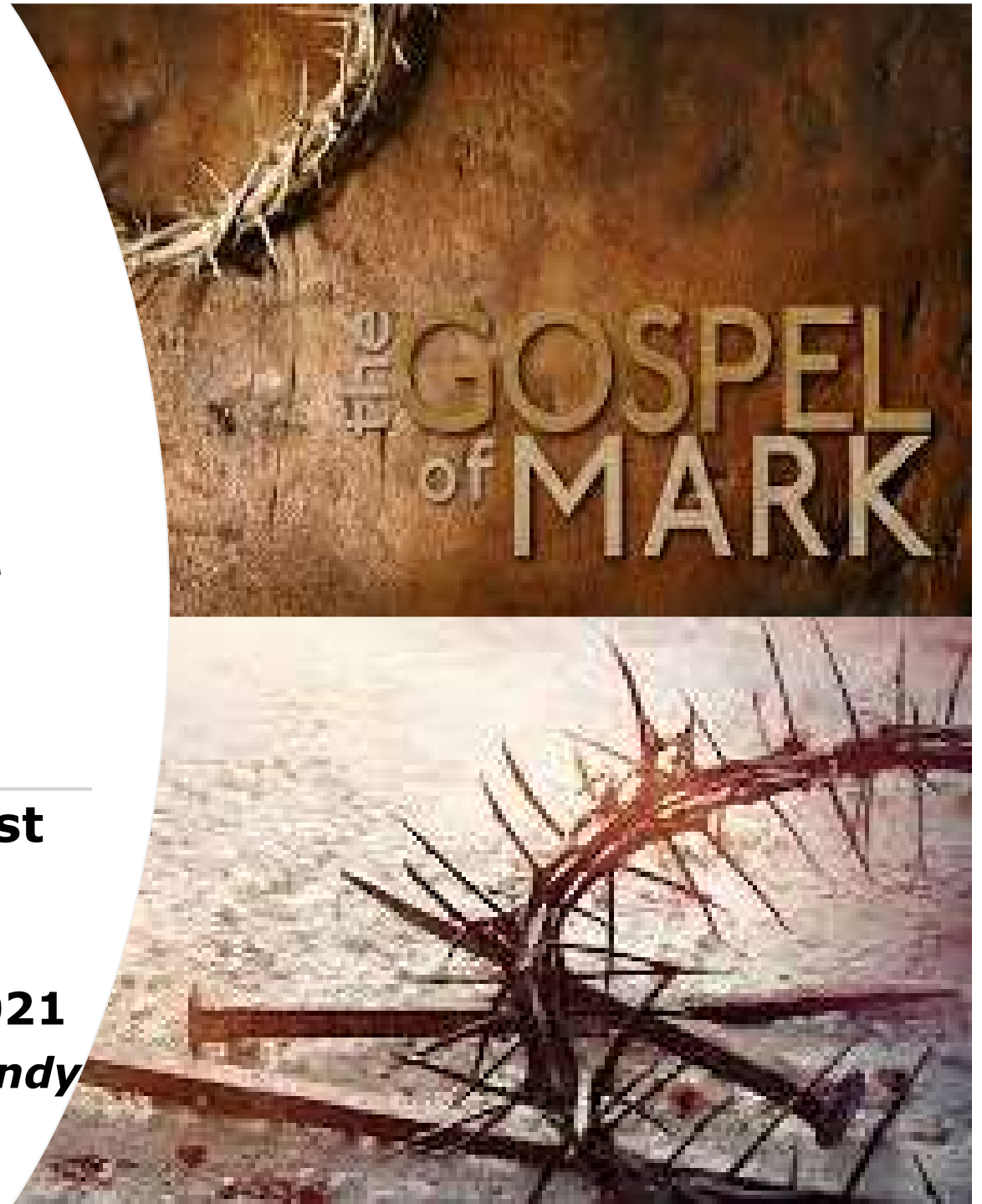
Jesus: The Master Servant

**Mount Calvary Baptist
Church**

Bible Study Series

Lesson 12 – May 19, 2021

Instructor: Dea. Larry Lundy





2021 Bible Study Series

Theme

“Jesus – The Master Servant”

Bible Book

The Gospel of Mark

Key Verse

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

(Mark 10:45, NLT)



2021 Bible Study Series

Study Aim(s)

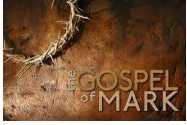
To discover how the Gospel of Mark shares with us the true character of Jesus Christ as “**Master Servant**” through His life, His love, and His ministry. We will see how Jesus provides the ultimate model for those longing to actively serve others while serving God.



Jesus: The Master Servant

Quick Recap

- We concluded last week's lesson by looking at Chapter 5 and Mark's focus on trust, faith, and belief.
- We explored two desperate people of faith that demonstrated a complete dependence and confidence in the Person of Christ:
 - ✓ An anonymous woman afflicted 12 years with an issue of blood.
 - ✓ Jairus, a synagogue leader, desiring his 12 year-old child to be healed



Jesus: The Master Servant

Quick Recap

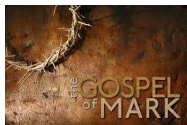
- These two individuals heard the words of Jesus Christ, witnessed his works with their own eyes, believed in Him, and put their faith in action.
- Their example encouraged us to see difficult situations as opportunities to trust in Jesus and see Him work.
- We came away with greater insight that faith in Jesus helps us resolve our most difficult and impossible situations.



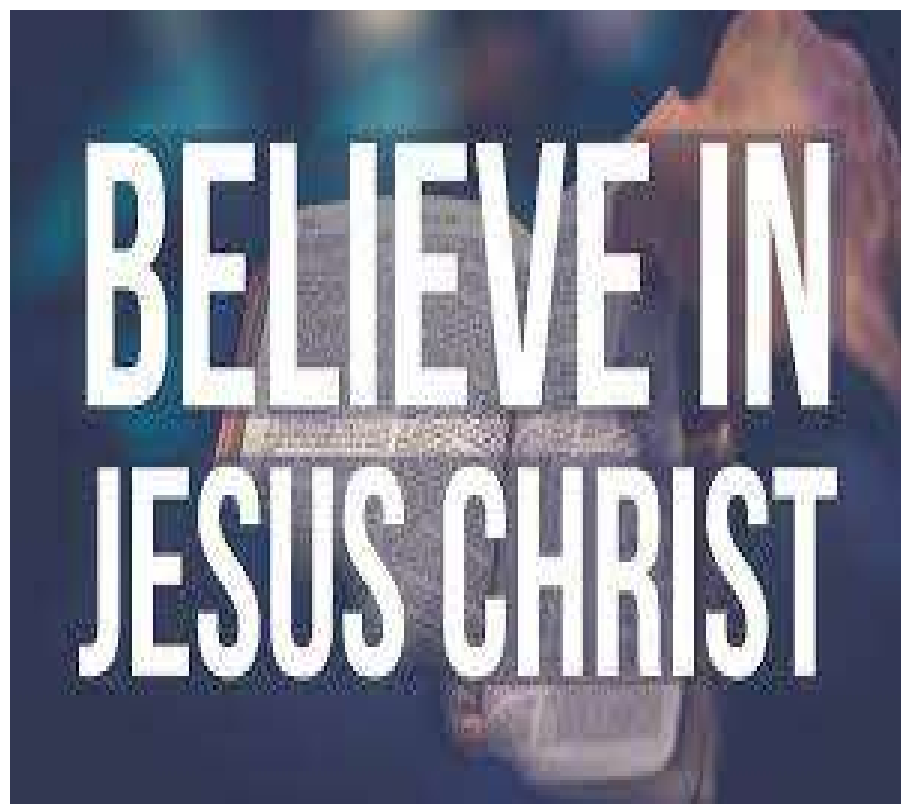
Jesus: The Master Servant

Tonight's Focus

- We now move to Chapter 6 where we see a contrast – instead of belief and acceptance, we now see unbelief and rejection.
- Mark's Gospel now takes us on a journey as we explore the unbelief of people who came into contact with God's Servant.
- In spite of all the great things the Servant has done and even though somewhat hard to believe it occurs, we will now explore **“The Growing Opposition To God's Servant”**



Jesus: The Master Servant



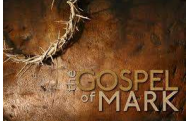
***“Growing Opposition
To The Servant”
(Mark 6:1-56)***



Growing Opposition To The Servant

Lesson Aim(s)

- To help us understand that we have an opportunity to reach the people that are closest to us, even if they know our failures and weaknesses.
- To help us see how Jesus, through His training of the disciples, brought them to a deeper understanding of who He was
- To learn that what may seem like constant problems and struggles are merely opportunities to strengthen our faith.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

Introduction

- We closed last week's lesson in Chapter 5 by observing miracles that Jesus performed.
- These miracles helped to show that Jesus had power over any kind of circumstances.
- The miracles also showed what kind of heart and what kind of faith a person needs to be a follower of Christ.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

Introduction

- We saw how we do not come to Him with our own self-righteousness or goodness, but we sometimes come to Him in our desperate moments and He still receives us.
- But now the Gospel of Mark shifts back to discipleship and highlights what discipleship looks like and what does it mean to follow Jesus.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

Introduction

- Mark approaches this through looking at the unbelief of people who came into contact with God's Servant.
- All of these people had every reason to believe and trust Jesus Christ, yet all of them failed to do so, including His own disciples.
- Mark now gives us a look at three scenes, which may seem unrelated, yet have a common thread to reveal to us what it means to believe and follow Jesus.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

Introduction

- We will look at our text through the following scenes provided by Mark:
 - ✓ ***Unbelief of Home Folk (Mark 6:1-6)***
 - ✓ ***Unbelief of His Enemies (Mark 6:7-29)***
 - ✓ ***Unbelief of His Disciples (Mark 6:30-56)***
- Let's explore our text and see what it reveals in these scenes.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

“Unbelief of Home Folk”

(Mark 6:1-6)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- Mark tells us that Jesus returns to His hometown of Nazareth with His disciples and begins to teach in the synagogue. (*Mark 6:1-2*).
- Earlier, he had been rejected by the people and they had evicted Him from the synagogue. (*Luke 4:16-30*).
- He once again showed grace by giving the people another opportunity to hear His Word, to believe, and to be saved.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- But Jesus found that their hearts were still hard.
- This time they did not evict Him, they simply did not take Him seriously.
- Even though some were amazed by His words and teaching, their amazement does not lead to faith.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- Rather, they took offense and asked “*where did he get all this wisdom from and the power to perform such miracles*” (*Mark 6:2*).
- Mark shows us that these are faithless questions and questions of doubt.
- They are asking how could Jesus have gained all this knowledge, learning, and wisdom.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- They hear His teaching, observe His works, but refuse to believe.
- They are not disputing that Jesus had wisdom or that he performs mighty works, they are just surprised that these things come from a simple hometown carpenter boy like Jesus (*Mark 6:3*)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- They sought to ridicule Him based a deeper look at their comments uttered in *Mark 6:3*:
 - ✓ *“He is just a carpenter”* – trying to expose the fact He did not have a formal education
 - ✓ *“He is the Son of Mary”* – attempting to insult Him by insinuating He was born illegitimately. Some did not believe in the virgin birth, otherwise He would have been addressed by the normal customary reference to His father “He is the Son of Joseph”.
 - ✓ *“He has many siblings”* – attempting to point out that none of them were like Him or believed Him



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- They dismissed him because they knew His family, who were “common folks. They watched him grow up and they didn’t see anything special in Him.
- To them he seemed just like a common boy and they conclude that a person of such background could not be the Messiah.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

- Jesus responded to His critics by saying “*A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his relatives, and his own family*” (*Mark 6:4*)
- Mark tells us in *Mark 6:5-6* that Jesus couldn't do any miracles except heal a few sick people and he was amazed about their unbelief.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk *(Mark 6:1-6)*

- Mark closes this scene by telling us that instead of remaining in Nazareth, Jesus departed and went round about the town and villages in Galilee teaching. *(Mark 6:6)*



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

Questions for Thought

1. Why were the people unable to trust Jesus and experience the wonders of His powers and grace as others had?
2. Why is that people who know you will tend to dismiss you?
3. What does the phrase “*familiarity breeds contempt*” mean?
4. What affect did the Nazarenes’ unbelief have on Jesus?



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk *(Mark 6:1-6)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- Because the people thought they really knew Jesus, they were unable to trust and believe Him.
- He was from the neighborhood (around the way); they saw Him doing carpenter's work and was just another Nazarene.
- The people saw no reason to commit themselves to Him.
- The contempt shown by the Nazarenes said nothing about Jesus Christ, but it said a great deal about them!



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- Some reasons that people who know you well tend to dismiss you:
 - ✓ Sometimes it is simply out of prejudice (family background, ethnic background, gender, job they hold, their mistakes, education)
 - ✓ Sometimes it is out of competition (I am just as good; my name was not called. We naturally compete with each other)
 - ✓ Sometimes it is out of hurt.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- Jesus knew what they were thinking and saying to each other. He saw how closed their minds were to the truth.
- Jesus knew the people wanted a special demonstration of His power, but He also knew that the miracles would not impress them.
- They would find ways to dismiss the miracles just like they dismissed His words.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of Home Folk (*Mark 6:1-6*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- Jesus never forgot His purpose: He did not come to do “miracles on demand”. He came to point people to a new life!
- Through this scene that Mark provides:
 - ✓ We must be aware of how easy it is to miss what is right in front of us because of our prejudices.
 - ✓ We must not give up on the people who have dismissed us.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

“Unbelief of His Enemies”

(Mark 6:7-29)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

- Because of the unbelief and rejection by the people in His hometown, Jesus' heart was broken as he saw the desperate plight of the people *(Matthew 9:35-38)*
- So he decided to send out His disciples to minister with His authority and power.
- He sent them out in pairs and reaffirmed their authority to heal and to cast out demons *(Mark 6:7)*.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

- He gave them some specific instructions on what to take with them, and how to live while they were out *(Mark 6:8-10)*
- He even gave them instructions on what to do in case they were rejected by those they encountered *(Mark 6:11)*
- Mark tells us that the disciples went out as, not on their own, but as representatives of Christ doing all that He told them to do and say *(Mark 6:12-13)*



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

- Mark then tells us that the ministry of Jesus and His disciples was so effective that it reached the palace of King Herod. *(Mark 6:14)*
- When Herod heard about the wonderful works of Jesus, he was sure it was John the Baptist that had come back from the dead to haunt and condemn him for an evil deed he had done *(Mark 6:16)*



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

- Herod's conscience was bothering him, but he was unwilling to face his sins honestly and repent.
- Mark then provides a flashback explaining how John the Baptist had been unjustly arrested and slain at the hands of Herod *(Mark 6:17-29)*.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- When sending the disciples out with special instructions, Jesus did not want them to be loaded down with extra baggage. He wanted them to have all they would need, **but not to the point of ceasing to live by faith!**
- The disciples did not represent themselves, but they represented the One that sent them.
- As the disciples were charged and did, we also need to be reminded that we also represent Christ in all that we do and say as we minister to others.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- We are also called to remember that we are not on a “solo” journey. As the disciples were sent out in pairs, we should be reminded that “*two are better than one*” (*Ecclesiastes 4:9; Deuteronomy 17:6; 2 Corinthians 13:1*)
- Jesus’ example taught the disciples that two would not only help each other, they would also learn from each other.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- We also learn that God's commandments always include His enablements *(2 Corinthians 3:5-6)*. He will give us the authority and means to carry out His commandments.
- The same authority and power He gave the disciples to proclaim the good news of the kingdom and to call on sinners to repent is also available to us *(Mark 6:12-13; Luke 9:6)*



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Enemies *(Mark 6:7-29)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- Through the story of Herod, who was later deposed and sent into exile by his own nephew (*Acts 12*), Mark reminds us that the consequences of focusing on earthly riches, fulfilling fleshly desires, and winning earthy fame will result in your soul being lost.
- We are called to keep in remembrance what Mark 8:36 tells us: “*For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*”



Growing Opposition To The Servant

“Unbelief of His Disciples”

(Mark 6:30-56)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples *(Mark 6:30-56)*

- Mark now shares with us that the disciples returned from their ministry work and told Jesus all about what they had done *(Mark 6:30)*
- He then took His disciples to a quiet place where they could rest, be alone, and prepare themselves for the next mission *(Mark 6:31-32)*
- Opposition to Jesus and the disciples was also growing as both the political leaders and religious leaders were involved.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples *(Mark 6:30-56)*

- The murder of John the Baptist gave evidence that the climate was changing and Jesus and His disciples had to be careful.
- Jesus realized that the best approach was to get away, but the crowds still congregated and followed them *(Mark 6:33-34)*
- Even though the plan was to get away alone with His disciples, Jesus was interrupted by the crowds.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

- In spite of the interruptions, Jesus welcomed them, taught them the Word, and continued to heal many who were afflicted (*Luke 9:10-11; John 6:1*).
- Mark now records two miracles that Jesus performed:
 - ✓ **Jesus Feeds Five Thousand (Mark 6:35-44)**
 - ✓ **Jesus Calms The Storm (Mark 6:45-56)**



Growing Opposition To The Servant

- **Unbelief of His Disciples** (*Mark 6:30-56*)
- ✓ **Jesus Feeds Five Thousand** (*Mark 6:35-44*)
 - Jesus had sent the twelve out to minister to the people because He had compassion on the needy (*Matthew 9:36-38*)
 - Now the needy multitudes came to Jesus and His disciples wanted to send them away (*Mark 6:35-36*)
 - The disciples had not yet learned to look at life through the eyes of their Master.
 - To them, the crowds were a problem. To Jesus, they were as sheep without a shepherd.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

- **Unbelief of His Disciples** (*Mark 6:30-56*)
- ✓ **Jesus Feeds Five Thousand** (*Mark 6:35-44*)
 - The disciples could offer only two suggestions:
 1. send them away to find their own food or
 2. raise enough money to buy them some food.
 - The disciples view was the people were in the wrong place at the wrong time and nothing could be done!
 - Jesus then took five loaves of bread and two fishes and fed the multitude (*Mark 6:38-44*)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

✓ Jesus Calms The Storm (*Mark 6:45-56*)

- Mark tells us that immediately after feeding the five thousand, Jesus insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go back to the other side to Bethsaida, while he sent the people home (*Mark 6:45*)
- **QUESTION: Why do you think Jesus requested that the disciples leave?**



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

✓ Jesus Calms The Storm (*Mark 6:45-56*)

- Later that night, Jesus then went up in the hills by himself to pray and the disciples got in their boats to head across the lake (*Mark 6:46-47*)
- Another storm came up, rocked the boat, and frightened the disciples (*Mark 6:48*).
- Jesus walked on water out to them, but they were terrified and thought He was a ghost (*Mark 6:49*)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

✓ Jesus Calms The Storm (*Mark 6:45-56*)

- He identified Himself, got in the boat with them and the storm ceased (*Mark 6:50-51*)
- They made it safely to land and the people recognized Jesus immediately (*Mark 6:52-54*)
- People throughout the area continued to bring sick and afflicted people to Jesus and He healed them (*Mark 6:55-56*)



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples *(Mark 6:30-56)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- For feeding the five thousand, Jesus looked at the situation, not as a problem, but as an opportunity to trust the Father and glorify His name.
- The disciples acted on the basis of human wisdom and saw the problem, but not the potential.
- An effective leader is someone who sees potential in problems and is willing to act by faith.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- We are like the disciples and tend to measure what we have and conclude *“it can’t be done”*.
- The first step is not to measure our resources, but to determine God’s will and trust Him to meet the need.
- The miracle of the feeding took place in the hands of Jesus, not the disciples. Jesus took the bread and fish, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples to distribute to the people.
Whatever we give to Him, He can bless and multiply.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- The disciples were on a “spiritual high” after their successful ministry trip. Like the disciples, we must remember that it is good to be on a mountaintop, if you don’t get distracted and step off a cliff!
- Spiritual blessing must be balanced with some burdens and battles, otherwise we have the tendency to think “*we have made it*” rather than looking for opportunities to strengthen our faith.



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples *(Mark 6:30-56)*

Learnings/Key Principles

- While we see the disciples facing another storm, each new experience of testing worked to strengthen their faith.
- We must keep in mind where Jesus was when the disciples were in the midst of another storm – **He was on the mountain praying for them.**
- We are in the midst of stormy world today, looking like we are going to sink, but we must remember that **He is in glory interceding for us!**



Growing Opposition To The Servant

➤ Unbelief of His Disciples (*Mark 6:30-56*)

Learnings/Key Principles

- As we look at these two miracles, we see that Jesus Christ brings us both provisions and protections (*Psalms 23:1-4*).
- If we trust Him, we will always have sufficiency and security, no matter what the situation might be. The important thing is we must trust Him.
- **We can believe and trust the Servant! He never fails!**



Growing Opposition To The Servant

**Questions, Answers
and/or Comments**

Thank You!

**May God Continue To Shower You With His
Abundant Blessings!**

**Meet us here on June 2nd for Session #13
as we begin to explore:**

**“The Servant-Teacher”
(Mark 7:1 – 8:26)**

