

## **STUDY 5 - The Rejected King (Mark 6:1-29)**

*Who are some leaders you look up to? What makes them worth following?*

### **Read Mark 6:1-6.**

1. What is so strange about the people's response to Jesus in Nazareth?
2. What are the reasons for their response? How can people in communities with a Christian heritage (like our own) sometimes be guilty of treating Jesus in the same way?

### **Old Testament Context: Another true shepherd**

*Numbers 27:15-18 records an Old Testament promise about God giving his people a true Shepherd.*

3. Given that 'Joshua' is simply the Hebrew form of 'Jesus', what do you think is being said about Jesus in Mark 6?

### **Read Mark 6:7-13**

4. What are some of the instructions Jesus gives to his disciples as he sends them out on their first mini-mission?
5. Was their mini-mission a failure or a success? Is there anything we can learn about wholly depending on God in our ministry from their example?

### **Read Mark 6:14-29.**

6. Is Herod an attractive or an unattractive character? What are his strengths and weaknesses?
7. Why was John the baptist killed by Herod? Is there still a place for speaking about politics in the church today?

### **Implications:**

- ! What makes Jesus a leader worth following?
- ! In what ways should Jesus' leadership shape Christian leadership in all its different forms? (e.g. Scripture teachers, Bible study leaders, husbands, etc.)
- ! How can we best prepare ourselves to live with the rejection that inevitably comes from following Jesus?

### **Give thanks and pray**

*Give specific thanks to God for the many ways in which Jesus is a true leader and shepherd worth following*

*Pray for believers all around the world facing rejection for their faith*

*Pray for the leaders in your part of the world that they might be transformed by the gospel to lead your country well.*