

Pastors Network

Church of the
Lutheran
Brethren

7th Sunday after Pentecost (Series B)

July 15th, 2012

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Lesson: Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 143:1-2, 5-8

CLB Commentary – Rev. Dale Hanson

This text has a number of different and interesting issues to address:

Jesus teaches at the synagogue – how does this relate to our habit of gathering to hear God’s Word preached at the first of each week? It seems to be the habit of Jesus and his disciples; it may also have been a huge part of his ministry/mission plan. It might be helpful to develop this point especially at a time when there is so much interest in doing mission and developing ministry plans. Question to address: what was Jesus’ mission/ministry plan?

Amazing that the people of his hometown were definitely impressed by his teachings yet they did not believe in him and were even offended by him. Jesus did not give offense; rather, the people took offense at his words and actions. They were astonished at his wisdom yet couldn’t understand because they couldn’t get over that they knew him as a carpenter and Mary’s son. Jesus was fully capable of performing miracles there had he wanted to. Yet, he chose not to give any signs of His divinity to those who scoffingly dismissed him. While he did not do any miracles there yet he did not retaliate or write these people off. Here, as elsewhere, Jesus took the world’s rejection and yet went to the cross to reconcile all people to God.

Interesting reference to the family of Jesus: having both brothers and sisters. The brothers are named but not the sisters, nor was a number given, except that there must have been more than one since the word “sisters” is used. What was their understanding of him? Did they come to believe in him as their Savior? What about your relationship with your brothers and sisters and family members?

The issue of faith and the lack of faith is a huge point in this text and elsewhere in Mark and the rest of scripture: look at Mark 2:1-5, Mark 5:34 and Mark 9:24.

Always remember, pastors, as you prepare and deliver your sermon that you are speaking God’s creative Word to people. People need to hear God’s Word regularly. It is God’s word that creates faith and gives life. You have a profound privilege of doing so. Feed your people!

Some of these thoughts and notes are taken from the Lutheran Study Bible.