

6:1 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐκεῖθεν καὶ ἔρχεται εἰς τὴν πατρίδα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθοῦσιν αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ.

6:1 Now¹ Jesus left that place and came to his hometown², and his disciples followed him.

² *sn* Jesus' hometown (where he spent his childhood years) was Nazareth, about 20 miles (30 km) southwest of Capernaum.

A1 Although Capernaum had become Jesus' own city during his Galilean ministry, his hometown is Nazareth, the village of his family and where he spent his childhood. Perhaps he is responding to a request from his mother and brothers to return home (Matt 12.46).

² καὶ γενομένου σαββάτου ἤρξατο διδάσκειν ἐν τῇ συναγωγῇ, καὶ πολλοὶ ἀκούοντες ἐξεπλήσσοντο λέγοντες· πόθεν τούτῳ ταῦτα, καὶ τίς ἢ σοφία ἢ δυνάμεις τοιαῦται διὰ τῶν χειρῶν αὐτοῦ γινόμεναι;

^{6.2} When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue. ³Many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did he get these ideas? ⁴And what is this wisdom that has been given to him? What are these miracles that are done through his hands?"

³ The *synagogue* was a place for Jewish prayer and worship, with recognized leadership (cf. Luke 8:41). Though its origin is not entirely clear, it seems to have arisen in the post-exilic community during the inter-testamental period. A town could establish a synagogue if there were at least ten men. In normative Judaism of the NT period, the OT scripture was read and discussed in the synagogue by the men who were present. (See the Mishnah, *m. Megillah* 3-4; *m. Berakhot* 2.) First came the law, then the prophets, then someone was asked to speak on the texts. Jesus undoubtedly took the opportunity on this occasion to speak about his person and mission, and its relationship to Old Testament fulfillment.

A1 This verse testifies to the genuine humanity of Jesus. Until he began his ministry, his deity was hidden that even people in his hometown, who had known him well since childhood, had no idea that he was also fully God.

³ οὐχ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ τέκτων, ὁ υἱὸς τῆς Μαρίας καὶ ἀδελφὸς Ἰακώβου καὶ Ἰωσήτος καὶ Ἰούδα καὶ Σίμωνος; καὶ οὐκ εἰσὶν αἱ ἀδελφαὶ αὐτοῦ ὧδε πρὸς ἡμᾶς; καὶ ἐσκανδαλίζοντο ἐν αὐτῷ.

^{6.3} Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary¹ and brother of ²James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And aren't his sisters here with us?" And so they took offense at him.

¹ The reference to Jesus as *the carpenter* is probably derogatory, indicating that they knew Jesus only as a common laborer like themselves. The reference to him *as the son of Mary* (even though Jesus' father was probably dead by this point) appears to be somewhat derogatory, for a man was not regarded as his mother's son in Jewish usage unless an insult was intended (cf. Judg 11:1-2; John 6:42; 8:41; 9:29).

Louw-Nida Lexicon: **τέκτων** one who uses various materials (wood, stone, and metal) in building - 'builder, carpenter.' There is every reason to believe that in biblical times one who was regarded as a **τέκτων** would be skilled in the use of wood and stone and possibly even metal.

⁴ καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι οὐκ ἐστιν προφήτης ἄτιμος εἰ μὴ ἐν τῇ πατρίδι αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐν τοῖς συγγενεῦσιν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ αὐτοῦ.

^{6.4} Then⁷ Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown, and among his relatives, and in his own house."

A1 Like other prophets before him (e.g., 2 Chro 36.16 [Israelites mock and despise God's messengers]; Mark 6.17 [Herod killed John the Baptist]; 12.1-12 [Parable of Tenants]), Jesus is not honored by his own family and his hometown. This rejection foreshadows Jesus' ultimate rejection in Jerusalem. Jesus indirectly acknowledges that he sees himself at least as a prophet of God.

⁵ καὶ οὐκ ἐδύνατο ἐκεῖ ποιῆσαι οὐδεμίαν δύναμιν, εἰ μὴ ὀλίγοις ἀρρώστοις ἐπιθεῖς τὰς χεῖρας ἐθεράπευσεν.

⁵ He was not able to do a miracle there, except to lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

C1 Jesus had no power to perform miracles? Or he chose not in such a climate of unbelief?

⁶ καὶ ἐθαύμαζεν διὰ τὴν ἀπιστίαν αὐτῶν.

⁶ And he was amazed because of their unbelief.

B1 People are amazed at Jesus' increasingly mighty deeds. In contrast, Jesus is amazed at the lack of faith among the people of his hometown.

How does your family react to your faith in Christ? How does that affect you?