- **b.** Their <u>Care</u> (6:8-10). 8 These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. 9 Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. 10 Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town.
- **c.** The <u>Cities</u> (6:11). 11 And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them."

Shake the Dust - An action that symbolized a complete break in fellowship and renunciation of all further responsibility. See Acts 13:51; 18:6. (The Ryrie Study Bible, Page 1409)

- **2.** Their <u>Accomplishments</u> (6:12-13). 12 They went out and preached that people should repent. 13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them. (NIV)
 - a. The **Message** (6:12).

That people should repent was part of the apostles' primary message. Repentance was necessary to cultivate the new life Christ offered. (The Nelson Study Bible, Page 1652)

- b. The **Miracles** (6:13).
 - (1) Cast out Demons (6:13a).
 - (2) They Heal the Sick (6:13b).

In Jesus' day olive oil was often used medicinally (cf. Luke 10:34). But here it represented the power and presence of the Holy Spirit and was used symbolically in relation to supernatural healing (cf. Is. 11:2; Zech. 4:1-6; Matt. 25:2-4; Rev. 1:4, 12). As a well known healing agent, the oil was an appropriate, tangible medium the people cold identify with as the disciples ministered to the sick among them. (The MacArthur Study Bible, Page 1471)

III. CLOSE – In spite of the evidence, many refused to believe in Jesus then and today. Nevertheless, we must keep preaching. Don't be surprised if people reject you as you present the Gospel message.

RISING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2800 E. 36th Street Tucson, AZ 85713

> Sermon Notes March 1, 2015

There Is No Place Like Home Mark 6:1-13

Sermon Notes: <u>www.risingstarbaptist.org</u> **Podcasting:** www.allewisministries.org

Vision: A Local Church with a Global Reach Motto: One Mind, One Heartbeat, One Direction.

> Rev. Amos L. Lewis Senior Pastor

There Is No Place Like Home Mark 6:1-13

- I. INTRODUCTION Mike Murdock said, "Go where you are appreciated and not where you are tolerated." This is a very true and profound statement. He also said that every person is "genetically designed and geographically assigned." People matter and places matter as well. There is a place where our gifts and talents will flourish and bless others. I know I have longed to go home for years. However, God has made it clear that my assignment is Arizona and retirement will be Alabama. As far as diversity is concerned, Arizona is on the cutting edge. As far as productivity, I can be more focused in Arizona than any other place I know on the planet. We enjoy over 300 days of pure sunshine. When you think about it, Arizona has a lot to offer. However, when you look at it from a spiritual perspective, Arizona has a lot to be desired. It is 90% unchurched. Even a lot Christians don't do church anymore today. Thank God for technology but nothing can replace being in worship with the saints of God. We've watched people come and go for the last 30 years since we have been in Tucson. Our mission at Rising Star is to bring them in, train them up, and send them out. We're a leadership training center.
- **II. EXPOSITION OF THE TEXT** The people of Jesus' hometown rejected Him. Jesus sends out His disciples on a mission of preaching and healing.
- **A The Malice of the Nazarenes (6:1-6a).** Jesus visits his hometown but is rejected by the people of Nazareth. This was Jesus' second rejection at Nazareth, the first one occurring at the beginning of His Galilean ministry (Luke 4:16-30).
- 1. Their Hostility (6:1-3): They resent the fact that this hometown boy has somehow acquired so much wisdom and power. I Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! 3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Offended has the connotation of mistrust, scandal, and disapproval. Because they could not explain Him, they rejected Him. (The Woman's Study Bible, Page 1654)

2. His Hesitation (6:4-6a): Because of their unbelief, he can do few miracles among them. 4 Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 And he was amazed at their lack of faith. 4 Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 And he was amazed at their lack of faith.

Jesus said that a prophet (in other words, a worker for God) is never honored in his hometown. But that doesn't make his work any less important. A person doesn't need to be respected or honored to be useful to God. If friends, neighbors, or family don't respect your Christian work, don't let their rejection keep you from serving God. (Life Application Bible, Page 1741)

- B. The <u>Missions</u> of the Twelve (6:6b-13). Jesus sends his disciples out two by two.
 - 1. Their Assignments (6:6b-11).
 - **a.** Their <u>Calling</u> (6:6b-7). Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. 7 Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.

The disciples were sent out in pairs. Individually they could have reached more areas of the country, but this was not Christ's plan. One advantage in going about by twos was that they could strengthen and encourage each other, especially when they faced rejection. Our strength comes from God, but he meets many of our needs through our teamwork with others. As you serve Christ, don't try to go it alone. (Life Application Bible, Page 1742)