

Parent Passage Guide

Mark 6:1–56

Note to Parents

- **Context Summary:** In Mark 6, we see Jesus sending out His disciples, miraculously feeding 5,000 people, and walking on water. Throughout these events, Jesus reveals His divine identity and deep compassion, even when His closest followers and His own hometown fail to understand who He truly is.
 - **Practical Tip:** Focus on reading and discussing just one specific story from this chapter that stands out to your family, rather than trying to explain every single event.
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For Younger Children (Under 12)

The Big Picture: Jesus saw a huge crowd of hungry people and felt compassion for them, treating them like sheep who needed a shepherd. He used a tiny amount of food—just five loaves of bread and two fish—to miraculously provide for thousands of people.

The Bottom Line: Jesus has the power to take care of us, even when we feel like we don't have enough.

Read & Understand:

- Read Mark 6:34–44 in the New Living Translation (NLT).
- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus told them to feed a giant crowd with only a little bit of food?
- Have you ever felt like a problem was too big for you to handle, like cleaning a huge mess or trying to share a small toy with a lot of friends?

- What does this story show us about what Jesus can do when we give Him the little bit we have?

Daily Application: This week, when you feel overwhelmed by a tough chore, school assignment, or a problem with a friend, pause and ask Jesus to help you, trusting that He cares about your needs.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us and caring for all our needs. Help us to trust You when we face big problems that seem impossible to fix. Thank You for doing amazing things in our lives. Amen.

For Teenagers (Ages 12-16)

The Real-World Connection: In a culture obsessed with influencers, hype, and finding the "next big thing" on social media, it is easy to dismiss Jesus if He seems too ordinary or familiar. Just like the people in Jesus' hometown who rejected Him because they thought He was just a common laborer, teens who grow up around church can become blind to the actual, life-changing power of who Jesus is.

Discussion Points:

- Read Mark 6:1-6 in the New Living Translation (NLT). Why do you think the people who grew up around Jesus were the quickest to doubt His power and wisdom?
- It is easy to get so used to hearing Bible stories that we stop expecting God to actually do anything real—how have you seen this "spiritual boredom" happen in your own friend group or at school?
- The text notes that Jesus couldn't do many miracles in Nazareth because of their "persistent unbelief." How do our assumptions or our friend group's expectations affect how we experience God today?

The Challenge: Identify one area of your life where you have stopped expecting God to show up, and intentionally pray for His intervention there every day this week, asking Him to break through your familiarity.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for eyes to see Jesus clearly, rather than just treating Him as a familiar church routine.
- Ask for forgiveness for times we have doubted God's power simply because it didn't look the way we expected.
- Pray for friends who might be rejecting Jesus based on false societal assumptions or peer pressure.