

July 5, 2009

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Ezekiel 2: 2-5

2 Corinthians 12: 7 -10

Mark 6: 1 – 6

In Mark 6: 1-6 is the story of Jesus being condemned by the people of Nazareth (where he was raised) when he was preaching there on the Sabbath. They acknowledge Jesus spoke with great wisdom, which had been given him by some divine power (v 2b). So while they could not deny what they heard, they would not admit the conclusion. To them, it was only Jesus, just Joseph and Mary's son and a carpenter. If Jesus had mysteriously appeared and no one knew who he was or his parentage, would they have given him any more respect? What do you think?

It seems that unbelief, contempt and perhaps even boredom for Christ have always been an issue. Yet, those with unbelief enjoy the same means of grace, as we who count ourselves among the faithful. Grace is God's gift. The starting point for Christianity and Catholic Social Teaching starts with God's gracious love and compassion for everyone. God then appeals for us to love God and neighbor as ourselves. This isn't some Gordian Knot needing some bold stroke to solve a problem. All you need is love.

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