4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.

THE SON OF GOD The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

1:1



45 Immediately he made his disciples get 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night[g] he came to them, walking on the sea. And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 9 And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.

8:29

And he ask who do you Peter answ the Christ.*

THE CHRIST

And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

the gospel of

15:39

And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

TRULY, THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF GOD

The Offense of Jesus

Mark 6:1-13



Ι.





 Initial reaction to Jesus' teaching and miracles was amazement.

the gospel of

- Initial reaction to Jesus' teaching and miracles was amazement.
- Instead of leading to saving faith, they took offense at him.



- Initial reaction to Jesus' teaching and miracles was amazement.
- Instead of leading to saving faith, they took offense at him.
- *"offense" deep-seated rejection, disdain. Literal definition: a stumbling block.*



 Jesus offends everybody, just in different ways and for different reasons.



- Jesus offends everybody, just in different ways and for different reasons.
- Unless Jesus can challenge, contradict, and even offend you, you aren't following the real Jesus, but a Jesus of your own making.

II. Why Jesus is Offensive



• They insult Jesus as being an illegitimate child.



- They insult Jesus as being an illegitimate child.
- "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown..."



- They insult Jesus as being an illegitimate child.
- "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown..."
- Familiarity breeds contempt.

• They were offended because Jesus is too ordinary.



- They were offended because Jesus is too ordinary.
- In the ancient world, your family identity and social status were established at birth.



 They were offended by Jesus because his message of grace was an assault on their pride.



- They were offended by Jesus because his message of grace was an assault on their pride.
- The gospel of grace says that everybody can receive salvation by faith in the resurrected Jesus.

II. Why Jesus is Offensive

III. We are to be Offensive (sort of)



• Immediately after being rejected, Jesus sends out his disciples.

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• Immediately after being rejected, Jesus sends out his disciples.

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• If you want to follow Jesus, you need to be prepared to offend people and experience rejection too.

- Immediately after being rejected, Jesus sends out his disciples.
- If you want to follow Jesus, you need to be prepared to offend people and experience rejection too.
- "Jesus is calling us to highly selective offensiveness." (Tim Keller)



• Jesus wanted them to be dependent on the hospitality of others.



- Jesus wanted them to be dependent on the hospitality of others.
- Jesus was inviting them into total dependence on Him.

• They preached the same message as Jesus. This is WORD ministry.



- They preached the same message as Jesus. This is WORD ministry.
- They met physical needs. This is DEED ministry.



- They preached the same message as Jesus. This is WORD ministry.
- They met physical needs. This is DEED ministry.
- Jesus warned disciples they would be rejected just like him.

 If your Christian beliefs and practices are never offensive to others, then something is wrong.

the gospel of

- If your Christian beliefs and practices are never offensive to others, then something is wrong.
- If your Christian beliefs and practices are always offensive, then something is wrong.

 How do we find the courage and wisdom to be selectively offensive?



- How do we find the courage and wisdom to be selectively offensive?
- On the cross Jesus experienced the only rejection that can destroy you.



- How do we find the courage and wisdom to be selectively offensive?
- On the cross Jesus experienced the only rejection that can destroy you.
- He got the ultimate rejection so that we could get the ultimate acceptance.