

Space for God Deeply Offended



PREPARATION

• IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT •

The Lord replied, "Look around at the nations; look and be amazed! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn't believe even if someone told you about it." Habakkuk 1:5

WORSHIP

Praise the Lord!

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.

Who can list the glorious miracles of the Lord? Who can ever praise him enough?

Then his people believed his promises. Then they sang his praise.

Psalm 106:1-2, 12

CONFESSION

There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.

We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Isaiah 53:2b-3

MEDITATION Mark 6:1-13*

Jesus left that part of the country and returned with his disciples to Nazareth, his hometown. The next Sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. They asked, "Where did he get all this wisdom and the power to perform such miracles?" Then they scoffed, "He's just a carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And his sisters live right here among us." They were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.

Then Jesus told them, "A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his relatives and his own family." And because of their unbelief, he couldn't do any miracles among them except to place his hands on a few sick people and heal them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then Jesus went from village to village, teaching the people. And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them authority to cast out evil spirits. He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. He allowed them to wear sandals but not

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

to take a change of clothes.

"Wherever you go," he said, "stay in the same house until you leave town. But if any place refuses to welcome you or listen to you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate."

So the disciples went out, telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil.

ANCHORING PRAYER

I believe You.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

In what ways have I honoured God among friends, coworkers, and family?

What do I find most difficult to believe about God?

WISDOM

And the Lord said to Moses, "How long will these people treat me with contempt? Will they never believe me, even after all the miraculous signs I have done among them? Numbers 14:11

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4

"I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind." —Bernard of Clairvaux

TESTIMONY *What is God saying today?*

INTERCESSION *For the Church—for others—for me.*

BENEDICTION

You have done many good things for me, Lord, just as you promised.

I believe in your commands; now teach me good judgment and knowledge.

I used to wander off until you disciplined me;

but now I closely follow your word.

• Amen •

Psalm 119:65-67

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.