

Refrigerator Notes 07 June 2015
Without Honor and Humility (EGO)
Mark 3 20-35, and 6 1-6

1. While Jesus was traveling from place to place, proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God, He arrived at His home town (Mk. 6 1-6) and one would have expected that Jesus would have received a warm welcome
2. However, Jesus did not receive not only a warm welcome, but in a sense He was disrespected
3. The scripture raises several questions (1) why was Jesus not welcome, (2) what is the relevance of this story for Christians today, and (3) what is the practical application of this story for today?
4. The answer to number one is simple, people in your home town only remember the person who was in their midst whether for a few years or many years
5. Jesus' earthly father was a carpenter and Jesus inherited the same trade as His father — that was the extent of Jesus' training
6. The relevance of this story as told by Mark the Apostle is although God can change you, the change will not have been or become evident to the town people who knew you or were raised with you
7. It is as if the snapshot taken of a person at the age of three will not reflect a chronological or maturity of the subject regardless of what has been accomplished
8. Although Jesus became a celebrity away from His home town, to His village He was still a carpenter and not a learned person
9. Even though Jesus took a position of more responsibility as assigned by God, a prophet, His home town saw Him as some kind of trickster
10. What is the practical application for us Christians today? That when God speaks, regardless of what the village thinks, regardless of what friends may think and regardless of what the family think or feel, one's responsibility first is to God and second, to show humility and thanksgiving for what God has done
11. It's our EGO (Edging out God) that keeps us from honoring God and showing humility,
12. As oppose to (Exhorting God Often)
13. The twin demons of ego that keep us from honoring God and showing our humility are our fear and pride
14. Until these two demons are tamed, one will never be able to honor God completely or show their humility to God
15. The congregation of Nazareth were fearful of what they did not understand, as most of us are fearful of the things we don't understand, the temple leaders' pride would not allow them to accept a common man from their village possessing godly knowledge, when we tell others we are saved our life must be reflective of a Christ lived life, and lastly, it was the fear and pride by Jesus own family that kept them in bondage and in chains (to be thrown possibly out of the temple and have the family reputation as carpenters destroyed) our family members know us best and don't see the work that God is working in us!
16. Finally, there is this verse that sums up Jesus' disappointment in the ones He looked too for support from His village and family "He could not do any miracles there, except lay hands on a few sick people and heal them" because of their lack of faith
17. My challenge to each of DPC's members was not 'where is your faith', but where is your humility when God speaks to you?
18. Christianity is not a service of life, but a life style that must be lived every day!