

SIMPLE *christmas*

A Simple Christmas Requires a Simple Belief

Mark 6:4

What does this simple story about “no honor” teach us?

- The ordinariness of Jesus is offensive.
 - His message
 - His followers
 - Life with Him

How do we respond to this simple story?

- A Belief: Jesus comes in the ordinary.
- A Discipline: Look for Jesus in the ordinary

Getting Started: Tell about a time when you were wrong about somebody. (Maybe they were better or worse than you thought. Maybe they had an ability or talent you never imagined.) What expectations of yours led to your wrong belief about that person?

Digging In: Read Mark 4:1-6. Where is Jesus in this story? What do the four questions in verses 2-3 reveal? Why do Jesus' hometown people take offense? What expectations might these people have had about the Messiah? What was the result of their unbelief? What was the reaction of Jesus? What about Jesus (His person, message, followers, life with Him) do you think people find offensive? What about Jesus has ever been difficult for you to swallow?

Living It Out: Why is it important for you personally to believe that Jesus comes in the ordinary? How could this belief help you experience more joy and less frustration this Advent season? Turn over this page. Take at least one day and practice the discipline of looking for Jesus in the ordinary.

LOOK FOR JESUS IN THE ORDINARY

	My ordinary life tomorrow...	Ordinary things I enjoy...	Possible ways Jesus is revealing Himself in these ordinary things...
7 am	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
12 pm	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
5 pm	●	Ordinary things I dread...	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
10 pm	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●
	●	●	●