Wonderful, wonderful singing.
If you have your Bibles this morning, I want to
invite you to turn with me to the Gospel of Mark.
The Gospel of Mark, chapter 6.
The Gospel of Mark, chapter 6.
Song's a pretty good introduction to what we're going to read about today.
We're going to look a little bit about the
problem with them and the problem with them
is they failed to recognize that it was all about him.
Boy, it's good to see this crowd here today.
Mark, chapter 6.
Begin ready at verse number 1.
I remind you, we're going to begin our revival services
tomorrow night at 7 o'clock.
Brother William McClellan will be our evangelist.
We're going to have a baptism this morning immediately after service.
Got communion service tonight.
So it begins what I believe is going to be a wonderful, wonderful week in the Lord.
Please try to read this slowly with me.
Try to see what is occurring
in this passage of Scripture.
Mark, chapter 6, beginning in verse number 1.
I'm going to read down through verse number 6.
The Bible says in He, referring to Jesus,
And He went out from thence and came into His own country.
And His disciples follow Him.
When the Sabbath day was come, He began to teach in the synagogue.
And many hearing Him were astonished,
saying,
From whence hath these men these things?
And what wisdom is this which is given unto Him,
that even such mighty works are wrought by His hands?
It says in verse 3,
Is not this the carpenter,
the son of Mary,
the brother of James and Joseph,
and of Judah and Simon?
And are not His sisters here with us?
And it says, And they were offended at Him.
But Jesus said unto them,
A prophet is not without honor, but in his own country,
and among his own kin,
and in his own house.
Verse 5 says,
And He could there do no mighty work,
save or accept that.
He laid His hands upon a few sick folk and healed them.

And He marveled
because of their unbelief
and when He went around about the villages teaching.
This morning I want to share with you
on the subject of missing His power.
Missing His power.
Let's pray.
Dear Lord,
I thank You for Your presence with us this morning.
I thank You for the reality
of who You are.
The mercy that was spoken of in devotion.
Lord, a God who
could take a man
and birthed him by the Spirit of God
into the kingdom of God that we learned about at Sunday school.
Dear Lord,
I pray that You would take Your Word today and that You would
strengthen me and enable me to share it in a manner
that is pleasing to You.
Lord, and that we would allow this to penetrate
our minds and our hearts or that You might
have Your way with Your church this morning.
Lord, for those here who do not know You.
We'll take this time.
You use it for Your honor and glory.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.
Folks,
God
is powerful.
Now that statement must be elaborated on just a little bit.
When I say God is powerful,
I don't mean He has some power,
He has a little power.
I mean God is omnipotent,
that God has
all power.
He has no bounds, He has no limits.
There is nothing too hard for Him, nothing too difficult for Him.
He holds
and maintains
all power.
He created the world
with His Word.
He's spoken into existence and the Scripture tells us
this world is upheld

by His Word.
His Word keeps it standing.
With His Word
He raised Lazarus from the dead.
With His Word He freed an adulteress.
With His Word He gave sight to Bartimaeus.
With His Word
He gave peace to a thief.
Folks,
a Christian's hope
is not in religion or relics or tradition
or ordinances
or denominations.
A Christian's hope
is in a risen,
present,
omnipotent
King of glory.
It is in the man,
Christ,
Jesus who possesses all power.
If we had to assign a theme to Mark chapter 5,
I realize I just read to you Mark chapter 6,
but if we had to assign a theme to Mark chapter 5,
it would have to be about the power of Christ.
If you got your Bible,
you can flip back and look at these things, but we find three events specifically in Mark chapter 5, and one is about a man who's in the country or the area
of the Gadarenes.
This man here we read about in the Gadarenes was a man who was possessed
not with one devil but many devils.
He was possessed with what they
described himself as a legion.
He was so
engulfed by this,
so taken over by this.
He lived
in the tombs, he lived in the cemetery.
They had attempted to chain him
and bind him,
but chains couldn't hold him.
He was a man that nobody
could do anything with.
He agonized night and day, screaming and moaning
and cutting himself with stones.
And the Lord Jesus
by the way

crossed the sea
for this one guy.
Because after he healed him he went back to where he'd come from.
And we find this man
who's in such torment at the end
sitting by the way
and in his right mind
and he had the desire Lord let me go with you.
How do you know you got it?
You want to go and you want to follow the Lord.
And the Lord Jesus says I'm sorry
but you're not going with me.
You go back home
and you tell all them
that you know and love what great things the Lord has done for you.
He moves from this Gadarene man now.
He goes back across
and he runs into a man named Jairus.
And Jairus is there
and he comes and says my daughter is at home who is sick.
Not just a little sick but is ready to die.
I need you to come to my house and heal her.
But as the Lord Jesus is discussing there
with Jairus there's a woman in the background.
She's back here in the back because she really can't be seen.
She's not supposed to be out in public
because she has a condition.
She's the woman with the issue of blood.
She was unclean.
She was unfit.
She couldn't rub elbows with anybody.
She couldn't go to church.
She had spent everything that she had trying to make herself better.
But nobody could do anything for her.
Folks such is the case
of sin in our life.
Man can't treat it.
Man can't fix it.
But she said to herself
if I could just get to him
and touch his clothes
I know that I'll be made whole.
And brother that's exactly what happened.
He touched his garment.
Virtue went out of him.
Power went out of him.
And she knew

that she had been healed.
Jesus says who touched me?
They say everybody here is touching you.
No, no, no.
Somebody's touched me differently today.
Daughter of thy faith
daughter of thy faith hath made thee whole.
I love that word daughter in front of that.
Adopted.
But now here's still Jerry is slinging around
and the people come and say don't bother the
master anymore your daughter's already dead.
And immediately he speaks up
if thou canst believe all things are possible.
So they say let's go.
They get to the house Jesus is there everybody's crying moaning
all in his big to do
because this little girl is already dead and
Jesus says she's not dead she's just asleep.
And they laugh him to scorn.
He and Jairus go up in the inner circle.
Peter, James and John go up to this room
and with a word
damsel I say to thee arise.
Oh chapter 5
is about the power of the Lord Jesus Christ.
But if you had to sign a theme to chapter number 6
it's about missing
this power.
God with all power
that can save,
that can redeem,
that can forgive,
that can clean,
that can heal,
that can hold on for all of eternity this God
who longs to move in our life to the praise of his glory
with all of this power moving to Mark chapter 5
we get to Mark chapter 6
and we see where this power is missed.
Missing his power is the theme here.
But folks that's also the theme for the world in which we live in.
Friend, we can do things today that absolutely boggle my mind.
I mean they can launch missiles from a thousand
miles away and send it through somebody's front door.
We have split the item,
we can cure things, we can fix things.

I don't know how in the world my cell phone works but I can pick it up
and I can talk to somebody
a thousand miles away just like you're standing right next.
We got so much power
in our midst and around us but our world,
our communities,
we are missing the power of God.
But it's not just true for the world around us.
Folks,
many amongst us today,
some of you
sitting here,
are missing,
have missed the power of God.
I'm going to share my heart with you this morning.
I love church.
I love coming to church.
As a young boy I didn't really much like coming to church.
It was the most boring hour of my life when I had to sit through preaching.
But as a grown man now who's been saved by the Lord,
I love coming to church.
But can I tell you this and I don't want to offend you.
I'm not the least bit interested in doing church.
I'm not the least bit interested in casseroles and singing and services
and going on through the motions of just doing
church and we meet together and all of those things.
I want to experience,
I want you to experience,
that's why we come here
is to experience the power of God in our lives.
This morning I want to look
at why they missed his power.
Why some of us are missing his power.
And I pray with all my heart that when we leave here we can get out of Mark chapter 6
and go back and live in Mark chapter 5.
Turn with me if you were to verse number 1, Mark chapter number 6.
Why did they miss his power?
Well number 1, there was a dangerous familiarity.
A dangerous familiarity with these people.
Look at verse 1.
It says, And he went out from thence and came into his own country and his disciples
followed him.
And when the Sabbath day was come he began to teach in the synagogue
and many hearing him were astonished saying,
From whence hath these man these things?
And what wisdom is this which is given unto him that even such mighty works
are wrought by his hands?

Then we come to verse 3.
Is not this the carpenter,
the son of Mary,
the brother of James and Joseph and of Judah and Simon,
and are not his sisters here with us?
And they were
offended at him.
It really stood out to me.
I've read this many, many, many, many times.
Folks, they didn't miss him because they were put off by him.
I look at this and these people were highly impressed with him.
They had a very high opinion of him.
They were astonished at his wisdom,
astonished at his works.
They were impressed by this one
who stood before them and said, Preaching them, then what's the problem?
Well, folks, the text tells us that they were dangerously familiar with him.
They knew where he'd come from.
This was one of their own.
This was one of their people.
They knew his mama.
They knew his daddy.
They knew his brothers and his sisters.
He had come back to Nazareth and they were
so familiar with him
that they failed to truly see him.
This word offended,
it's a little bit different than the way we use it.
The original word is scandalizo.
We get the word scandalous.
It literally means
to place a stumbling block.
It means to trip over
or entice someone to sin.
Because they were so dangerously
familiar with the Lord
that this had turned into a great obstacle,
a great enticement to sin,
that they absolutely tripped over
the top of it.
Why, preacher?
Because they were so familiar with him they did not truly see him.
Folks, we've got to go back to the first priority in prayer.
Somebody,
please tell me.
This is test time.
What is the first priority in prayer?

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
That's the first thing we've got to do when we get on our knees to pray.
And folks,
that's not so we sound right.
It's not even so we pray right.
Why is that the first priority?
It is so that we respond
to him right.
When we see the hallowedness of our Father,
the majesty and the glory and the power and the sovereignty and the authority,
I can now pray right but what it's going to do,
it's going to make me respond to him right.
See, the whole problem with these people
is they were familiar with him but they had yet to truly see him.
I'm thankful to live in the Bible Belt.
I am.
I don't know really
how far the Bible Belt goes but I think it gets all of Georgia and Alabama
and Louisiana and Mississippi and Tennessee.
There's blessings to live where we live.
There's gifts to living where we live.
But can I tell you this can also be very scandalism.
What do you mean,
preacher?
That so many of us just like them
can be so inundated in church culture.
Church is all we know.
Church is all we've been around.
We got them on every corner.
I drive 120 miles from my driveway to here and
I promise you I pass no less than 100 churches.
We got them on every corner.
We got them on of every flavor possible
but the majority of the people who sit within
this Bible Belt and within our churches
know absolutely nothing about the power
of God
in their lives.
They're familiar.
They know all about it but the reality is they have yet to experience it.
See we naturally think
that the people that's going to be in hell
is the molester,
the murderer,
the blasphemer,
the idolater and friend they will be but can I tell

you what they won't be the only ones that are there.
Jesus says in Matthew chapter 7
that many will say to me in that day Lord, Lord have we not prophesied in thy name
and in thy name done many wonderful works
cast out devils if you'll have it fed the preacher
at revival service took our place in the choir
gave 10-15% of all that we got we've attended all the revivals we've been inundated
with all this and we're exactly familiar with you and Jesus says
depart from me ye that work iniquity.
I'm not mad at anybody what I'm talking about
is people in this text
people in our churches that we completely miss
the power of God that we're so familiar with it
yet we still don't
truly see him.
These people were offended at him
say preacher what's the answer?
What is the answer for experiencing his power?
And when I say experiencing his power I just
don't mean strength to make it to the day.
I'm talking about a power that saves us that sustains us
that gives us a song that we can bring glory
to God through our lives folks it's simple
we have got to see him we've got to look at
him again and we've got to look at him again
we've got to look at him again and again and again and we do not turn away
until we truly see God for who he is.
We look at him until we have a Mount Sinai Red Sea
Mary in the garden moment
every day of our life I love it when Mary finally recognized him and she says
my master Moses tell the people at Red Sea
stand still and see the salvation of the Lord he comes
down on Mount Sinai and smoke and fire those people saw God
and if we are going to experience the power of God in our lives church we must
must must
see him
and they didn't
but there's something else that they lacked
or they had actually look at verse number 5
there was misplaced priorities
verse 3
it says it's not just
the carpenter's son the brother of James and Joseph and of Judah and Simon
and are not his sisters here with us and they were
offended at him they tripped over him they
sinned
they missed his power

but Jesus said unto them a prophet is not without
honor but in his own country and among his own kin
and in his own house
and verse 5 says and he could there do
no mighty work
save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk and healed them
now verse 5
doesn't prove the title wrong of missing his power
we need to pay close attention to the attention to the description of mighty work
he could there do no mighty work
I got in a rabbit hole with this one have you ever given serious consideration
that's the things that we consider mighty that the Lord thinks are minute
he said why are you not worried about tomorrow which one of you by worrying can add
one cube into his stature in other words you can't make yourself grow an inch
why in the world are you worrying about the next day
Jesus shows up at Jairus'
house and says what's the big deal
well she's dead why all this will do
disciples are there with 4,000
men who got nothing to eat including their families
and Jesus looks at them and says you feed them
see these weren't mighty works
in the view of the Lord
see these folks experience
the minute
but they miss the mighty
say why is that preacher
I'm going to tell you why
they desired the small things and were satisfied with the small things
you understand what I'm saying
Jesus is there
the king of kings and the lord of lords
well
we need to go home and get grandma because she's
got a condition and we need to get her healed
that happened
and they were satisfied with it
that's what they desired
they were satisfied with it
but the biggest problem is because they did not see him they did not desire him
well I love that song it's all about him
because they didn't recognize him they didn't see him for who he was
he was not the one that they desired so they experienced the minute but they
missed the mighty folks these things are so common in our life I've even seen them
at work in my life so many many times
listen I'm so thankful and grateful for what the Lord has done for me and in my life
I was just thinking yesterday I was cutting my grass that's my best study time on my

mower me and the Lord and I'm just thinking
folks when I was 20
years old I was washing cars for minimum wage
and was giving half of my little paycheck to the court
I didn't have a driver's license
I didn't have nothing
and I look back now at 54
I've been to Italy I've been to Mexico I've been to Muhammad I've been to St.
Lucia I've been all over the place I've got to go to Missouri and Kansas and deer
hunting and Illinois and I got a house that's paid for I got three vehicles
one breaks down I just jump in another when I go I got a little bit of money saved up
I got myself blistered yesterday because I'm hanging out in my pool and I look back
and I think of all the things that God has given me and I can't believe it
but can I tell you what I've learned
I'm amazed I'm shocked
at how
unsatisfying
all of those things can be
I never
thought I'd have nothing that ain't good English sister
I never thought I'd have nothing
now God has given me all these things yet I look back and I see those things
are simply minute that on its own left alone outside this is what I've learned
outside of the peace of God and the presence of God and the power of God in my life
all of that stuff ain't nothing but a bunch of
quail bunch of quail read Numbers chapter 11 they got quail 13
14 miles in every direction 3 feet deep why because they wanted quail and God
gave them quail but at the end of the day they did
not desire God and they missed the power of God
see it could be
that the reason we're missing him in our life is he is not the one that we desire
folks from Nazareth to the wilderness
that's why they missed it but I'll tell you what else I can also testify
I can testify of emptiness and weakness but I can also
testify of contentment and peace and the power of God
when he is the one that I desire when he is the one that I want to please
when he is the one that I want to know when he is the one that I want to serve
and go God I thank you for all this stuff but I really want to do what is
pleasing and right in your eyes there's a power from
another realm that comes inside your preacher and I want to tell you it will come to
your life when you see him and you desire him sinner it will save your soul
when you see him
you'll see yourself
you'll desire him
and the power to cleanse you and keep you will come to you but until we see him until
we desire him I don't care if we pack 300 in here we will have powerless powerless
lives there was a careless familiarity

there was misplaced
priorities but look here there was
absolutely shocking
and this is where the rubber meets the road shocking
unbelief look at verse 5 the scripture says and
he could there do
no mighty work
say that he laid
his hands upon a fixed few sick folk and he healed
them and he marveled because of their unbelief
there's another
scripture another scene it's in Luke chapter 7
where Jesus marvels I love the idea of Jesus marveling now he's never
surprised by anything but what it means literally
is standing in amazement it's about a centurion
a Roman officer
he had a servant that was sick to him about near ready to die so he
sends messengers to Jesus come and come and heal my servant come and heal my servant
but before Jesus get there this man begins to do some thinking he says you know what
I'm not I'm not worthy for him for me to go to him I'm not worthy for him to come to
me he's the king of king and lord of lord all he's got to do is speak the word and
my servant will be made whole that news got back to the lord as Jesus said
I'm telling you what I ain't seen nothing like it
amazed at the faith of a man
and here the lord
stands again
with this shock
with this marveling
he stands amazed
folks this isn't a good amazement
it's a sad amazement
it's a shocking amazement please listen church
that in spite of all that they had seen
in spite of all that they had witnessed what did they say out of their own mouths
what man is this that he could speak with such wisdom what man is this that he
performed such mighty works they were there they saw it yet in spite of all the
evidence laid out in front of them they refuse to
believe
church if we
are going
to experience the power of god in our lives we
must believe
unbelief is a common thing but we must never forget
how saddening
and shocking
and offensive it is to the lord jesus christ
but also how powerless it leaves us

how do we truly come to know him
how do we truly come to experience him and fellowship with him folks it's i'm not going to complicate what's simple
we see him for who he is we get down and pray and say our father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name we get like john behold the lamb of god which takes away the sin of the world if this ain't just another man this is a god man the king of glory
we see him and we desire him not the minute things but the mighty thing the mighty one but most of all most important of all
we believe him
we believe
in him
i want to share a fact
with you
before god
made man
a sovereign god made the sovereign choice
that when it comes to spiritual matters
his salvation
his peace his power
he only
works through the currency of faith
let me say that again when it comes to spiritual matters
his salvation
his forgiveness his power
his peace his joy this god only works through the currency of faith friend
we have got to believe you say preacher
what kind of belief the bible talks about all kind of beliefs that the devil believes in tremble let me tell you this it doesn't have to be a perfect belief
as a father who come to the lord jesus his son was possessed with a demon
it cast him into the fire it cast him into the water
the disciples couldn't heal him
jesus looked at this man by the way honesty is always the best policy isn't it
jesus looked at this man and said our disciples tried to heal him and they couldn't
and jesus said that thou canst believe all things are possible
he said lord i believe
but help my unbelief
lord i believe but i'm struggling
lord i believe this is way too big for me see it
doesn't have to be perfect but it has to be pure
what little faith that he had he put every single bit of it in the lord and that's where you're at this morning you're weak you're cast out you ain't got to understand it all but bring what you got and put it purely completely in god
what kind of faith what kind of belief is pistouo belief what preacher what in the world is that the bible says that abraham believed god
and it was counted unto him for righteousness that word believe is pistouo
and what it means is to trust and to entrust to
see it's not recognizing the acknowledgement of something

what it is is being so convinced I'm not trying to make a show but it was being so convinced that I can place myself
I can place my life I can place my word I'm absolutely convinced if I stand right here this thing is going to hold me or I wouldn't do it that we get to a place in our life even though it's not perfect god I'm entrusting my life my faith my family my past my future my song my hurt all that I am I'm entrusting every bit of that to you that's what belief is it's daily bread belief
give us this day
our daily bread
can I tell you what it's not
it's not I have believed
it's I do believe
I get in trouble with this one
friend the evidence that you trust God isn't that you did once 30 years ago it's that you believe you believe in the present tense
it's that you trust him and you entrust him right now I have believed and I do believe and I am believing and I will believe I will continue to believe because I see you I desire you I trust you friend if we can get to that place in our life through Bethel Missionary Baptist Church the power of God will fill us and we won't miss
it has saved the worst of the worst
it will put a song in the saddest of the saddest
it will give us the courage and the conviction
to make the tough choices
to do the selfless things
to do what God has called us to do which is only possible
friend through the power
of God
out there if you'll come I want to ask you a question
listen
the power of God is not a doctrine to study
it's not a characteristic to admire
it is a reality that God's children intends for us to experience
that I see him every day
I desire him every day
I trust him fully every day
in church it doesn't matter how many times we meet this week or how many times we've met in the past
if that doesn't become us
what Jesus did with these men he will do with Mitzi Horton he will marvel and her unbelief
and our unbelief
I pray today
see God
desire God
but most of all

you entrust yourself to this God let's pray
Heavenly Father we thank you for your words
we thank you for your truth and we thank you for your presence
Lord you are no
cosmic Santa Claus that exists just to give us all wants and whims and desires
our world our world was made to revolve around you
not you around us
but dear Lord how possible and how easy it is
Lord to go through the motions of this life
and miss out on the greatest thing in life which is the knowledge
and the peace and the presence and the power of you
God I pray this morning if there is someone here that doesn't know you
they never entrusted their sin they never entrusted their present and their future
to your work I pray that they would do so this morning
but God I also pray for your church its leaders everyone who is part of it
the Lord that we might see you
that we might desire you above all
and that we might trust you more than anything in this world
in Jesus name I pray Amen.