

Sunday Connection



Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Sunday, July 4, 2021

First Reading

Ezekiel 2:2-5

The Lord sends the prophet Ezekiel to the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 123:1-2,3-4

A prayer to God for mercy

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul bears insults and weakness for the sake of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus is rejected in his hometown.

Family Connection

Our family plays an important role in shaping us and forming our self-identity. In family life, we find a safe place to discover who we are and who God calls us to be. But sometimes the influences from outside our family can make us unrecognizable to those who know us best. These outside influences can lead us away from God, or they can lead us toward a deeper relationship with God. In today's Gospel, we see that the people of Nazareth could not recognize Jesus as the Son of God. They could know him only as the son of Mary. We hope that through our family life we will be encouraged to filter the many influences on our lives through the lens of faith so that we will become the person that God calls us to be. As you gather as a family, talk about the people and events that are influencing members of your family. Acknowledge that many of these people and events are positive influences, helping us be better people and leading us to a deeper relationship with God. Also acknowledge, however, that there are negative influences in our lives that risk pulling us away from God. Observe that Jesus was a person who allowed his relationship with God to be the most important thing in his life. This led many people to have faith in him as the Son of God. However, not everyone could recognize this about Jesus. Read today's Gospel, Mark 6:1-6. Ask: Who does not recognize Jesus as God's Son in this Gospel? (some of his kinfolk in Nazareth) Observe that because of the people's lack of faith, Jesus could not perform many miracles in Nazareth. Conclude by praying together that our families will continue to help us follow God in our lives. Pray together the [Prayer for Vocations](#).