



DEFINED

Who God Says You Are

Defined By God
Mark 6:1-6

Defined By God

- **Genesis 1:31 NIV**, 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.
 - Biblical Hebrew “very good” - God considered his entire creation to be perfectly aligned with his design, complete, and without flaw, essentially declaring it as "excellent" or "completely good" in its created state
 - It emphasizes God's satisfaction with his creation, not just its basic goodness

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- **Genesis 1:31 NIV**, 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.
 - When God created Adam and Eve, they were a part of the “very good”
 - They hadn't done anything to be declared “very good”, it was just because they existed
 - Can you picture God walking with them in the cool of the evening expressing His love for them and His joy just because they exist
 - Even though He knew they would soon listen to a new voice of rebellion

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- **Genesis 1:31 NIV**, 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.
 - What do you think their mental thinking was like?
 - How did they see themselves?
 - Was life for them worth living?
 - Do you think they struggled with anxiety?
 - They knew their God, but they also knew who they were before His eyes – “very good”

Defined By God

- But then we see another voice entering the garden
- **Genesis 3:4-5 NIV**, 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.
5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
 - Suddenly another voice is telling them they can be better than “very good”
 - There is something lacking in their lives
 - To be fulling complete, fully very good you must receive the knowledge of good and evil by eating the forbidden fruit
 - If you want to be happy, accepted, fully human – eat

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5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
 - Do you see what is happening?
 - They are letting another voice define them
 - Another voice that does not love them - define them
 - Another voice that does not know them and what they were created for - define them
 - Nothing else has change other than a new, different, sinful voice

Defined By God

- This is what is happening in our world and church and God's children today
 - We are letting another voice define us, our worth, our purpose rather than allowing our Creator who loves us define us
 - Good News – they did that to Jesus as well and He really does understand

Scripture

- **Mark 6:1-6**, 1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.
 - “Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? 3 Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.
 - 4 Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The people were amazed but unbelieving

- **Mark 6:1-6**, 1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.
 - Nazareth was only about 20 miles from where Jesus has been ministering so His reputation was well known to them
 - He returns, “accompanied by his disciples”
 - They were amazed at His teaching
 - Biblical Amazed - is used to describe being overwhelmed with wonder, distressed, or alarmed
 - Not accepting Jesus or what He said but amazed at the authority Jesus was teaching with

The people were amazed but unbelieving

- **Mark 6:1-6**, 1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.
 - **Mark 1:21-22 NIV**, 21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.
 - People were struck by his confident and direct teaching style, not quoting others but speaking with his own unique voice, which gave the impression of absolute authority over the subject matter

The people were amazed but unbelieving

- **Mark 6:1-6**, 1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.
 - **Matthew 5:27-28 NIV**, 27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Their perception of Jesus was challenged

- **Mark 6:1-6 NIV**, “2 Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?”
 - Notice they address Jesus as “this man” – They knew who He was but yet would not give Jesus the dignity due by using His name – sets the tone
 - They asked three questions all meant to challenge what they had just heard
 - “Where did this man get these things (*teachings*)?”
 - “What’s this wisdom that (*that He claims*) has been given him?”
 - “What are these remarkable miracles (*we have heard but not seen*) he is performing?”

Their perception of Jesus was challenged

- **Mark 6:1-6 NIV**, “2 Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?”
 - Jesus’ teaching was nothing like their perception of who this man was
 - Jesus is challenging their preconceived, mind made up understanding of who they believe He is

Their perception of Jesus was challenged

- **Mark 6:1-6 NIV, 3** Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.
 - They asked three more questions to refresh their understanding of Jesus
 - Isn't this the carpenter?
 - ❖ He is just a common simple carpenter
 - ❖ There is nothing special about Him, He is just ordinary like us
 - ❖ He is not learned, never studied under a Rabbi or had any formal schooling at all

Their perception of Jesus was challenged

- **Mark 6:1-6 NIV**, 3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.
 - They asked three more questions to renew their understanding of Jesus
 - Isn't this the carpenter?
 - ❖ Notice how many times people were amazed at Jesus
 - ❖ I often wonder where that amazement is today
 - ❖ He has been rejected by the Spiritual Leaders in Jerusalem

Their perception of Jesus was challenged

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 - They asked three more questions to renew their understanding of Jesus
 - Isn't this the carpenter?
 - Isn't He just the illegitimate child of Mary
 - ❖ We know God would never work through one like this
 - We know His brothers and sisters and they live with us
 - Give it up Jesus we know who you really are
 - They are doing the same thing to Jesus as Satan did to Adam and Eve in the garden, trying to redefine Jesus and how He sees Himself

Their unbelief, in spite of all the evidence, caused them to trip or stumble over Jesus

- They took offense at him, they tripped or stumbled over Jesus
 - **MSG**, “Who does he think he is?” They tripped over what little they knew about him and fell, sprawling. And they never got any further.
 - **1st Peter 2:7-8 NIV**, 7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” 8 and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”
- Hear the people declare, “He is a fake and fraud to be rejected”
- Jesus was hearing all of this

Their unbelief hindered, did not allow Jesus to do any miracles

- **Mark 6:1-6 NIV**, 4 Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 He was amazed at their lack of faith.
 - He could not do any miracles there – why?
 - Their choice of stubborn unbelief would not let them receive any blessing from God through Jesus
 - Even if Jesus had done great things there, they still would not have believed causing their hearts to harden deeper
 - Remember Moses and Pharoah
 - Think of it as grace given

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 - Now we see Jesus was amazed
 - **MSG**, He couldn't get over their stubbornness
- But there were a few that ignored the crowd and placed their faith in Jesus' ability to heal
- Then Jesus left

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to define who you are

- What kept Jesus from just throwing up His hands and saying, “What’s the use”?
 - He knew who He was
 - **Mark 1:9-11 NIV**, 9 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”
 - ❖ **MSG**, “You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life.”

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to define who you are

- The world, society, religion, His disciples, even His own family tried to redefine Jesus and, but He was rock solid in who He was
 - “He is just an illegitimate child of Mary”
 - “No, no my Heavenly Father told me I am the Son of the Most High God”
 - “God would never accept and love anyone like Him”
 - “No, no My Heavenly Faither has told me He loves me and is pleased/proud of Me”
 - “He is just a common, untrained carpenter”
 - “No, no I know who wrote the book and I know it completely right down to the intent of my Father’s heart”

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to define who you are

- Born-again child of God can we not allow our Heavenly Father define us like He did Jesus?
 - Will you hear and accept your Heavenly Father declaring you as His precious Son or Daughter
 - Will you hear and accept His declaring His eternal love for you
 - Will you hear and accept Him to say He is pleased with you for accepting His Son
 - Will you allow Him to lead you to the place of “Well done my good and faithful servant”
 - Or will you keep allowing something else to define you other than your loving Heavenly Father

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to define who you are

- Born-again child of God can we not allow our Heavenly Father define us like He did Jesus?
 - This is who you are, stop listening to all the other voices
 - And this includes your own voice
 - Jesus didn't listen to them and neither should you

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to set the course of your life

- Hear them say, “He is just a simple carpenter from a no named place without anything special about Him. He can’t!”
 - See them try and layer their own perceptions of who Jesus is upon Him
 - Hear them say, “This man is not special, go back to being just a common carpenter”

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to set the course of your life

- Maybe God has placed a desire within you that you have buried deep because it seems too hard, too outside of your own perceived abilities, too difficult
 - Maybe you hear echoes of the past where failures abound
 - Maybe you're sitting here a little older thinking God is done with you
- Hear what your Heavenly Father says about you

Only your Heavenly Father has the authority and right to set the course of your life

- **Jeremiah 29:11-13 NIV**, 11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you,” declares the Lord
 - Notice this verse is not just addressing the young and strong
 - Or those without a history
 - Or those without anxiety, or a stubborn heart, or a fearful spirit
 - Or those who think they know what they are doing

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- Why would Jesus leave a growing, thriving ministry and go to a place of complete rejection?
 - To illustrate to His disciples the power of unbelief and the necessity for faith in Jesus for their lives
 - David Ring



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