

“Being Offensive” by Kirk Hunt

*And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, **A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.** And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.*

Matthew 13:57–58 KJV

Jesus grew up in Nazareth. Luke 2 states, “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” How then did this same Jesus offend these same folks?

People want command and control over their environment. That includes you. Shockingly, for some folks, that includes God.

Jesus preached a new and disruptive doctrine of grace and love. As proof of his God-given authority to do so, He performed miracles on a large, if not massive scale. The men of Nazareth were offended, because Jesus operated without their permission or endorsement.

Jesus was offensive. He preached Real Truth™ to the powerful and everyone else. He did not need, want, or ask for, anyone’s permission.

When the City Fathers could not control Him, they got mad about it. Their offense and indignation fed their unbelief. When they refused to accept Jesus’ God-given truth and authority, they were also rejecting His miracles.

Living and speaking God’s truth will offend some people, 100% of the time. You are still called to be His living letter, written to, and read by, men and women. Be an accurate, gracious and loving record of God’s truth. It is up to your readers to decide how they will respond.

Think: God I want to hear and believe Your Word, no matter how uncomfortable it makes me.

Pray: “Lord, help me to hear and believe Your Truth, no matter how it makes me feel.”

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