

**A Prophet Without Honour.**  
Discussion Notes on Matthew 13:53-58  
For Home Groups week beginning 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011.

*Q: Is there any food that you absolutely hate?*

Over these past few months we've been looking at the gospel of Matthew and today we come to Chapter 13, where Jesus returns to his home town. All through these last few chapters of Matthew God has essentially been asking a single question – 'are you with me or are you separated from me'. The parable of the fish, The parable of the treasure in the field (The parable of the wheat all ask the same question: 'are you with me or are you separated from me').

**Word** – Please read **Matthew 13:53-58**

*Q: What sort of things would Jesus have been teaching people about how we should live, how we actually live and about himself?*

*Q: Therefore why did the people of Jesus' home town take offense at him?*

*Q: Whenever people encounter the claims of Jesus there is both agreement and division. Why is this (see **Matthew 10:34-36**)?*

*Q: Why do we need to get to grips with what Jesus is saying?*

*Q: Relating to someone in the right way is the key to a successful relationship. What are the different ways we relate to: a stranger, a friend, a brother, a spouse, a child. What are the different ways we would relate to: the Queen, a Waiter, a Night-club bouncer, a Gangster.*

*Q: Having a right relationship with someone is key. If our relationship with someone is broken what do we do about it?*

*Q: What was deficient about the way Jesus' Mother, brothers, sisters and neighbour related to Jesus?*

*Q: Explore the different and wrong ways people relate to Jesus without him actually being Sovereign Lord AND Loving Saviour.*

*Q: **Read Hebrews 12:28-29.** How do such verses impact our relationship with Jesus.*

*Q: If we don't accept Jesus is God then how does that change the way we read the Bible?*

*Q: Discuss whether in our relationship with God "seeing is believing" or "believing is seeing".*

*Q: Why is it right that God will never provide us with proof of his existence and nature – and atheistic scientists will never be able to disprove God's existence and nature.*

By the way there is an encouraging ending see **Acts 1:14**.