



M A R K

The Gift of God





- Mark 3:14-15

- And He appointed twelve, so that (1) they would be with Him and that (2) He could send them out (a) to preach, and (b) to have authority to cast out the demons.



- Mark 4:35–8:26 → the disciples' faith
 - Challenges, illustrations of His power, examples, tests



Lessons for Ministry

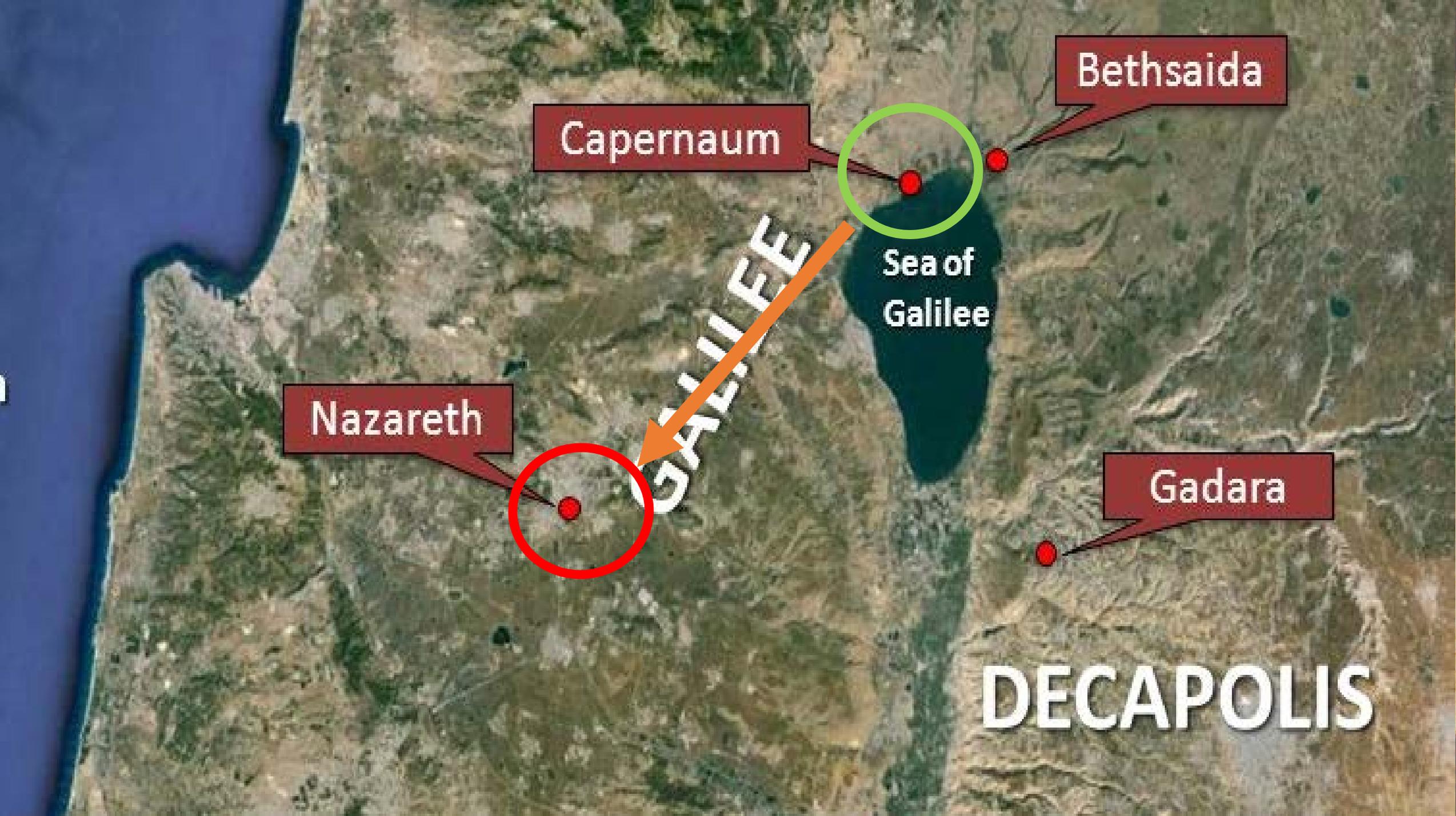
Mark 6:1-29

Mark 6:1-29



Lessons for Ministry:

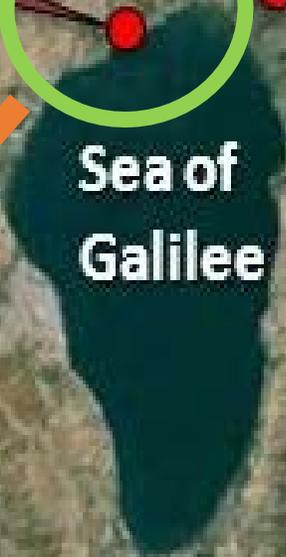
1. You May Face Rejection
2. You Can Trust God
3. You May Lose Your Head



Nazareth

Capernaum

Bethsaida



Gadara



DECAPOLIS



You May Face Rejection

- Back to Nazareth
 - Did He visit twice?
 - First Visit: Matt. 4:12-13; Luke 4:16-30
 - After His temptation and John's arrest
 - He taught in the synagogue
 - They tried to kill Him



You May Face Rejection

- Back to Nazareth
 - Second Visit: Matt. 13:53-58; Mark 6:1-6
 - This time He had disciples
 - Second chance for Nazareth?
 - Prepare the disciples for their ministry?
(see 6:11)



You May Face Rejection

- Jesus taught in the synagogue
- Many listeners were *astonished* [as in *a blow to the head*]
 - But they didn't believe it or the miracles
- They ask: “Who is this guy?”
 - Or rather: “Who does He think He is?”



You May Face Rejection

- “Where did *this guy* get these things?”
 - He’s just a carpenter!
 - He’s the son of Mary!
 - His brothers and sisters aren’t anything special



You May Face Rejection

- They took offense at Him
 - From *bait stick* or *the trigger of a trap*
 - *To cause to be ensnared; to stumble*
 - Rom. 9:32-33; 1 Cor. 1:23
 - By rejecting Him they ensnared themselves in unbelief



You May Face Rejection

- The result: He *could do no* miracle there (5)
 - He *did not do* ... - Matt. 13:58
 - This was both judgment and mercy
 - Cf. Matt. 11:20-24
 - He wondered at *their unbelief*
 - He didn't take it personally

You Can Trust God



- *He was going around the villages in a circle teaching (6b)*
 - Itinerant preaching around Galilee (cf. Matt. 4:23; 9:35)
 - Was Jesus alone?
 - *He summoned the disciples (7)*

You Can Trust God



- Jesus sent the disciples out in pairs (cf. Matt. 10:2-4)
 - He gave them authority:
 - Over unclean spirits
 - [To heal every kind of disease/sickness]
(see 13; Matt. 10:1; Luke 9:1)

You Can Trust God



- Jesus sent the disciples out in pairs (cf. Matt. 10:2-4)
 - He gave them instructions:
 - Trust God for everything
 - Stay in one place
 - Pass judgment on those who reject

You Can Trust God



- They went out and preached that men should repent (see 1:15)
 - *To relent, change the mind [be converted]*
 - *True sorrow for unbelief and change of thought resulting in change of action*
- This is God's message to all men (Acts 17:30-31; cf. Luke 13:1-5)

You Can Trust God



- They were casting out demons and healing
 - God was confirming them as Jesus' ambassadors (cf. Heb. 2:1-4; 2 Cor. 12:12)
 - Jesus' works were apologetic (John 10:25, 37-38; 14:10-12)



You May Lose Your Head

- King Herod wanted to know what was going on (“*Who is He?*”)
 - *John the Baptist has risen from the dead*
 - *Elijah*
 - *A prophet*



Herod "the Great"

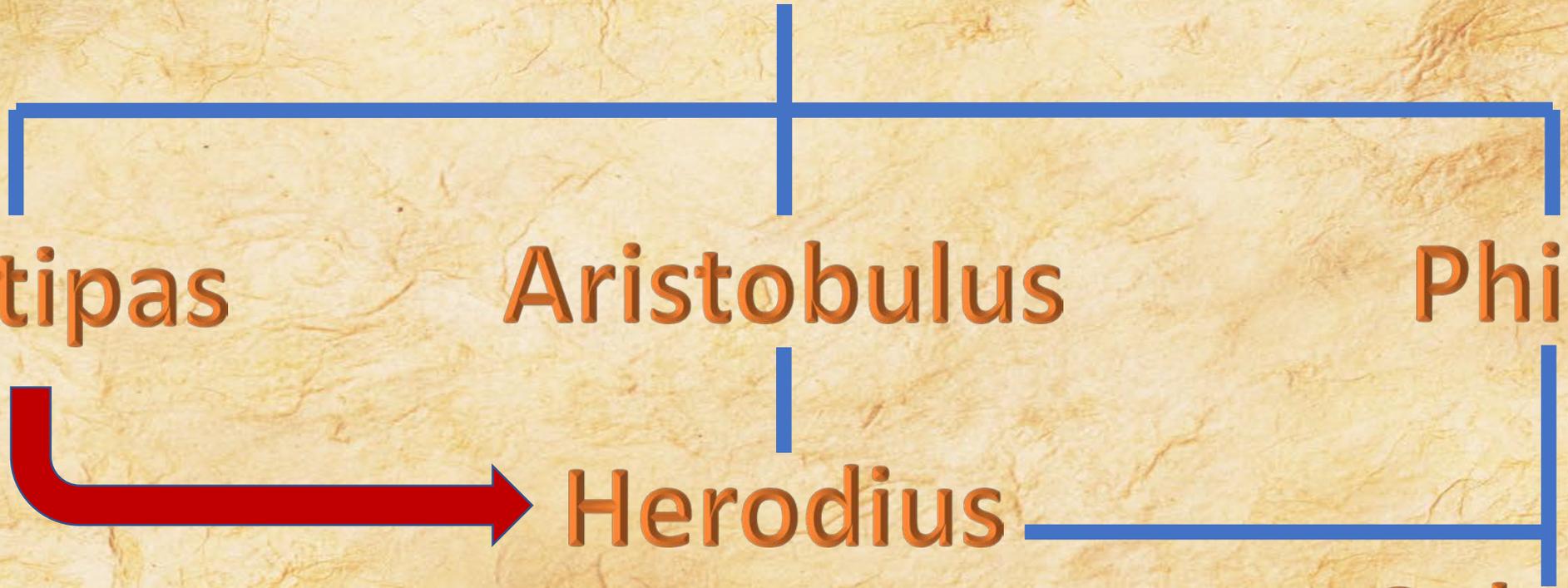
Antipas

Aristobulus

Philip

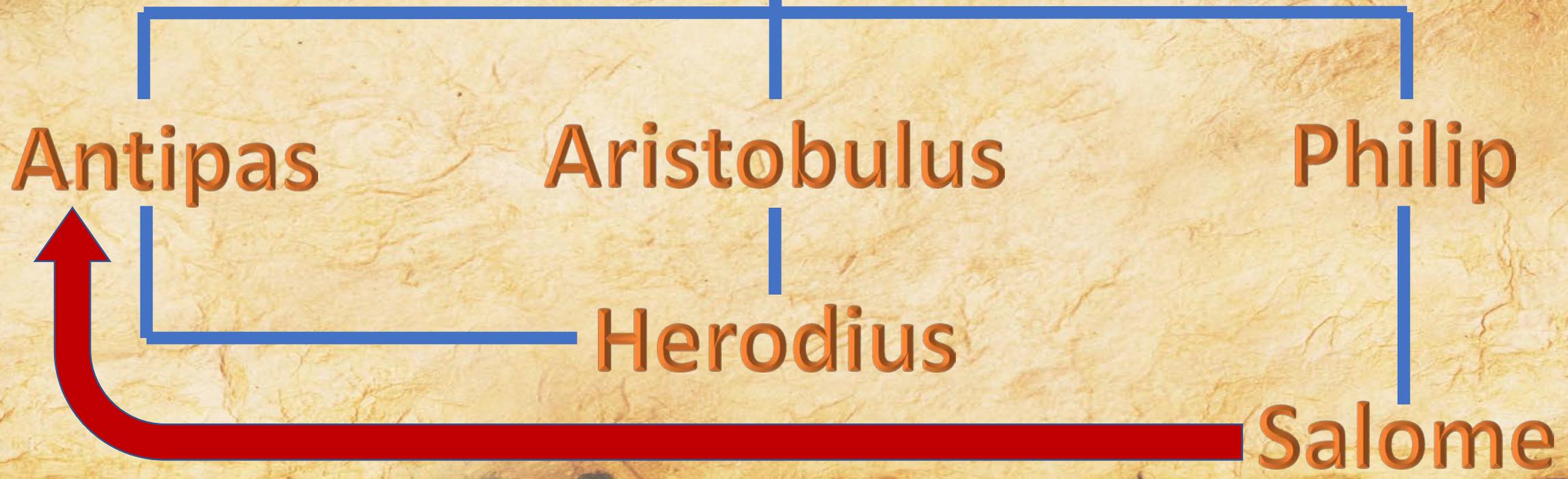
Herodius

Salome





Herod "the Great"





You May Lose Your Head

- John called Herod to repentance (18)
 - Herodius wanted to kill John (19)
 - Herod had John imprisoned (17)
 - John didn't compromise his message
 - Herod was *perplexed* - battle between conscience and will

So What?



- Lessons for Ministry:
 - Sometimes people don't want to hear what God wants you to say
 - Sometimes they respond poorly
 - But that should not change our message ("Repent!")

So What?



- Lessons for Ministry:
 - Sometimes people will use any excuse to discount your message
 - Lack of credentials, unpublished, “you’re just one of us”
 - *Familiarity breeds contempt*

So What?



- Lessons for Ministry:
 - It doesn't always go the way you want
 - Sometime people don't change
 - Sometimes disciples lose their lives
 - Mark 8:34-38
 - We have hope for the future