

Gospel reading

Matthew 13:54-58

Song

Faithful One, so unchanging (Brian Doerksen)

<https://youtu.be/7PjSO5IhI0M>

Reflection

Doing something new or different is not always easy, even if it is something we desperately want to do! It may mean moving out of our comfort zone. It is then that we look for support from those closest to us and it is hard when they are less than enthusiastic. So often it is those closest to us who hold us back: who do you think you are? You can't possibly do that! Are you crazy?...

Today's reading shows us that Jesus faced this too! He had come home and had gone to the synagogue. Like any other teacher (rabbi) he was teaching. But the people couldn't get beyond what they thought they knew about him. As far as they were concerned he was 'the carpenter's son' whose mother was Mary, and they knew his family. He was just an ordinary local. Who did he think he was? To them Jesus was an upstart, being someone that he wasn't, and they took offence. The result was that Jesus was unable to do much there because of their unbelief. But he did not give up as we see when we read on in the Gospel.

Sometimes we just have to get on without the support of those closest to us just as Jesus did, and that isn't easy. What we do have, though, is the support of Our Lord who knows just what we're going through.

Prayer

Lord, when the going is tough and I feel abandoned by those close to me, help me to remember that you are with me and will never leave me. Help me to trust you and not give up.