

Jesus is focused on his ministry of preaching the Good News to all people. He visits many towns and villages and has tremendous success. Now he comes to his hometown, Nazareth. In this lesson in our *Journey with Jesus*, we see that things are not quite the same at home, and we see Jesus *Encountering a Bumpy Road*. Let's look at homecoming week for Jesus.

- 1. It was the custom of Jesus to visit the ______ on the Sabbath.
- Jesus was anointed to ______ good news to the poor, to ______ freedom for the prisoners and sight for the blind, to ______ the oppressed and to ______ the year of the Lord's favor.
- 3. Jesus used the examples of ______ and _____ in the Old Testament as prophets who helped the Gentiles.
- 4. After Nazareth, Jesus went to ______.
- 5. The teaching of Jesus was unique because his message had ______.
- 6. Jesus said he must ______ the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

Personal Study:

- 1. Turn back to the Old Testament and read the stories to which Jesus referred. The story about Elijah can be found in 1 Kings 17:1-6, and the story about Elisha can be found in 2 Kings 5:1-14. What do you find in common between the two stories? What do you find different? Why did Jesus choose these stories to include in his lesson at the synagogue in Nazareth?
- 2. Carefully read Luke 4:43. Jesus said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also" and then concludes with, "Because that is why I was sent." Suppose you were to make a statement and then conclude with "Because that is why I was sent." What would you put in there as your main focus of ministry? Why do you believe this to be true? Spend time in prayer with God that he may fully empower you to take hold of that ministry as part of his kingdom. After all, that is why you were sent.
- 3. Memorize Luke 4:18-19

Next Time:

Sometimes we feel things are going great in our lives. Everything is working out the way it should, things are calm, peace is in our lives. And then BOOM, things change suddenly. The peace becomes strife. The calm becomes stormy. And we cry out for help. The same thing happened to Jesus' disciples, not once, but twice during Jesus' time on earth. The next stop on our *Journey with Jesus* takes us on a couple of boating expeditions with Jesus and his disciples, when we will see what it means to be *Cruising Peacefully*.