Don't Let the Doubters Stop You

In today's Scripture text, Jesus went to His hometown, Nazareth, with His disciples. When the Sabbath (holy day) came, He began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard Him were amazed. They asked, “Where did He learn these things? Where did He get all of this wisdom? How does He have the power to perform all these miracles?”

The people in Jesus' hometown began to say things like, “Isn't this Mary's son? We know His brothers—James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. His sisters are here too. He is just a carpenter.” Jesus' neighbors and others from His hometown refused to believe in Jesus. Then Jesus told them, “A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his relatives.” Because of their unbelief, Jesus could not do any miracles there. Their lack of trust in Jesus prevented them from fully receiving what He had to offer.

While He was in Nazareth, Jesus could only lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them. Jesus was amazed at the people's lack of faith. Then Jesus left and went from village to village, teaching others and telling them who He was.
I Don't Care What They Say!

Justin had been studying for the Spelling Bee for a few weeks and the big day had finally arrived! He was in the finals and his word to spell was “eliminate”—meaning “to get rid of.” Justin spelled it out and heard the words he had hoped for: “That is correct.”

At home, Justin said, “Dad, I won the Spelling Bee today. But now I wish I hadn’t.”

“Wait a minute. Am I hearing you correctly? I thought this is what you wanted,” Dad commented.

“I did. It was great to hear ‘And the winner is’—but as soon as I got back to class, my excitement changed. Some of my friends were not happy for me,” Justin said with a sigh.

“I’m sorry they weren’t happy for you. Sometimes, people are jealous, and they can be mean,” Dad explained.

“But that doesn’t make sense to me. Even if I did not win, I would be happy for whoever did,” Justin said.

“That’s the right attitude to have. Remember that when you go to the district finals,” Dad reminded him.

“Good point. Will you help me study?” Justin asked.

“I thought you would never ask,” Dad replied.

Exploring the Story in Ruby’s Lab

Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Sometimes, people see where you came from—not who you are—to make judgments. The people in Nazareth did that to Jesus. Some people might think that an orphan could not become one of the few black women physicists in America. That’s what happened to Dr. Hadiyah-Nicole Green. She was the first person in her family to graduate from college. Dr. Green is currently working on a cure for cancer. She is the founder of the Ora Lee Smith Cancer Research Foundation. To learn more about Dr. Green, visit https://www.theroot.com/a-story-of-perseverance-hadiyah-nicole-green-shares-he-1790853825 (with your parents’ permission and guidance, of course!).
Do You Remember the Story?
Answer the questions below, which are based on today’s Bible story.

1. What is the name of Jesus’ hometown? _____________________________

2. Why was Jesus limited in the miracles He performed in His hometown?
_________________________________________________________________

3. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? ________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

4. Where did Jesus get His wisdom? _________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Searching for Words

Find and circle the listed words from today’s lesson in the word search below.

**WORD BANK**

amazed • disciples • Jesus • Nazareth
prophet • Sabbath • synagogue • wisdom

S O K Q F H M J Q D J F K
D A A B S E Q W E R K E U
S I B X A L X Z K S Q I S
Y L S B M G A A G B U Q E
N J I C A M H T E R A S A
A C S X I T P R O P H E T
G L C A E P H Q S J M X K
O K I H D I L Y L X S S M
G P P A M A Z E D S D O M
U K L V E A W I S D O M J
E W E S N A Z A R E T H X