

3. Of the three main points today, which one did you need to hear most and why? (Stay focused on Jesus, expect some conflict, and don't lose hope.)

4. Pray and ask the Lord to show you what you need to *know* and what you need to *do* in response to what you've heard and read this week. Write here what comes to mind. Share your answer with your group if appropriate.

IN YOUR GROUP

In your Cornerstone Community group this week, discuss your answers to the ON YOUR OWN questions. In a one-hour online group session, you might spend a 10-15 minutes catching up, 40 minutes talking through the discussion questions above, and 15-20 minutes praying for one another and planning ways the group can meet needs and serve others.

For your regular giving, give online at [CORNERSTONENH.ORG/GIVE](https://cornerstonenh.org/give) or text the amount you want to donate to 84321. Checks can be sent to our mailing address below. Through your generosity you're playing a part in more people saying "YES!" to Jesus!

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mail: PO Box 1011, Concord, NH 03302-1011

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YOUR NAME: _____ 07/04/2021

WATCH, LISTEN & MORE AT
[CORNERSTONENH.ORG](https://cornerstonenh.org)

Growth Guide

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2021

CONNECT AT CORNERSTONE

We want to encourage, inform, and connect with you! Go to [CornerstoneNH.org](https://cornerstonenh.org) and click on the New Here? link. (You can also text NEW to 603-225-2550.)

LIFE. BETTER.

*FOLLOWING JESUS MAKES LIFE BETTER
AND MAKES YOU BETTER AT LIFE.*

TODAY'S MESSAGE SAFEGUARD

TODAY: FOCUS • MARK 6:14-29

THE BOTTOM LINE

EXPECT _____
ESCAPE _____

Jesus told them, "Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor." And he added, "God blesses those who do not fall away because of me. – Matthew 11:4-6 NLT

STAY FOCUSED ON _____

The Gospel of Mark is all about recognizing Jesus for who he is. Mark is clearing up confusion about John the Baptist's role and Jesus' identity, as well as confronting the lie that "It doesn't matter what you believe, as long as you believe something."

This is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God.
– Mark 1:1a NLT

"There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." – Acts 4:12 NLT

Herod Antipas, the king, soon heard about Jesus, because everyone was talking about him. – Mark 6:14 NLT

“Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way.” – Mark 1:2 NLT

“Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. – Malachi 4:5 NLT

Jesus replied, “Elijah does come first and get everything ready for the coming of the Son of Man. They treated this Elijah like dirt, much like they will treat the Son of Man, who will, according to Scripture, suffer terribly and be kicked around contemptibly.”
– Mark 9:12-13 MSG

Saying “YES!” to Jesus? Text **YES** to **603-225-2550**

*Let us celebrate your decision
& resource you for your new life in Christ.*

As a result, you will be held responsible for the murder of all godly people of all time—from the murder of righteous Abel to the murder of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you killed in the Temple between the sanctuary and the altar. I tell you the truth, this judgment will fall on this very generation.
– Matthew 23:36 NLT

Abel & Zechariah ben Berekiah are the first and last murders recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures.

EXPECT SOME _____

Jesus was very forthcoming with his followers: life is found only in him, but while evil is in the world, life will not be trouble-free. In his teaching and in the story of John the Baptist, God disarms the lie that says, “If I do everything right, everything will go right.”

John had been telling Herod, “It is against God’s law for you to marry your brother’s wife.” – Mark 6:18 NLT

As they were crossing the lake, Jesus warned them, “Watch out! Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and of Herod.”
– Mark 8:15 NLT

Jesus defined the yeast of the Pharisees as hypocrisy, which is related to legalism, in Luke 12:1. For an example of what Jesus was talking about see the issue of “Corban” in Mark 7:11.

So Herodias bore a grudge against John and wanted to kill him.
– Mark 6:19 NLT

Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus. – Mark 3:6 NIV

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, – 2 Timothy 3:12 NIV

DON'T LOSE _____

Remember this principle: “Don’t doubt in the dark what you saw in the light.”

John the Baptist, who was in prison, heard about all the things the Messiah was doing. So he sent his disciples to ask Jesus, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting,[a] or should we keep looking for someone else?”
Jesus told them, “Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.” “Is this what you were expecting? Then count yourselves most blessed!”
– Matthew 11:2-6 NLT/MSG

THE CHALLENGE

_____ THE DIFFICULTY
SO YOU WON'T GET _____

ON YOUR OWN

Answer these questions this week to reflect and go deeper.
TALK IT OVER with friends right now, using the questions highlighted in **bold**.

- 1. Of the kinds of difficulties mentioned, which one do you think derails the most people?**
- 2. Review 2 Timothy 3:12. Do you find that encouraging or discouraging?**