

Jesus Makes the Common Life Extraordinary...
based on Mark's Gospel, chapter 6, vs. 1-6

Moderator

Welcome to WNAZ Nazareth's Borrowed Signal Station – In fact Nazareth's only TV station - favorite talk show, "Has Anything New Happened in this Town This Week"? (Applause)

Moderator

Our guests today are Yeshua BarYosef, tradesman turned Rabbi (applause)
The Mayor of Nazareth, who owns the only camel in the town (applause)
Yeshua's Crew – Peter, James, and John, and Matthew (applause)
Local farmers and sheep herders (applause)
The Pious Priest from the 1 door Synagogue on the hill (applause)
And in our audience today are the mother of the radical Rabbi, Mrs. Miriam Yosef, and his brothers and sisters. (they waive and the others applaud)

So Yeshua, I hear you've changed careers, so to speak.

Yeshua

It is true that I was once a carpenter. But now I've been assigned a higher calling.

Moderator

Now wait a minute. Weren't you just an ordinary, common person only just a few weeks ago?

Miriam, from audience

Don't rag my son mister. He was a good boy.

One of the brothers

Aw ma, he was just like us. Wake up, work, eat, go to sleep. Nothing special!

Moderator

Now, let Yeshua talk. You do talk a lot, don't you?

Yeshua

You yourself say it is so, and you sir, would know, as you are a great talker.

Moderator

Well, I won't brag, but I have won many awards and starred in my own talk show for years, but I wonder about this assignment. You know you guys don't even have an airport in this town! I had to ride here on the caravan express camel service. You people are out in the boonies.

Yeshua

It is true. We are in a moderate but very plain and very common village here. It is a great place to raise children. In fact, I've known everyone here since I was small.

Moderator

Mayor, what have you to say about this village and town?

Mayor

I can proudly boast that I own the only camel in town – free and clear – finished the last payment a year ago. He’s been a good service to me and my family. It’s not that I’m rich or anything, I just happened to inherit the camel from a distant relative. See, what had happened was...

Moderator

Uh, that’s very interesting, Mayor we’ll get back to you.

Mayor

Yes, son, I’ve got more stuff to tell you all.

Moderator

Right. Well, Pious Priest, I understand that the new Yeshua has kind of ruffled your feathers a bit!

Pious Priest

I’ll say. Just a few weeks ago this man was covered from head to toe in sawdust, repairing Samuel’s barn door where the Mayor’s camel kicked it in. And now he’s going into the synagogue like he’s *somebody*, going around calling himself a Rabbi.

Yeshua

Actually, sir, it was the people that called me that.

Pious Priest

I mean, after all, isn’t he just the carpenter’s son? You know what they say...

Mayor

Once a carpenter, always a carpenter!

Pious Priest

That’s right! And, mind you, he claims to be a healer as well!

Moderator

Peter, you’ve been hanging out with Yeshua. What about it?

Peter

No one was more surprised than I. He even cured my mother-in-law! And I actually like my mother-in-law!

Moderator

Well that’s rare. James, when did you start hanging out with Yeshua?

James

My brother and I were fishing one day and he approached us. I had heard strange things about him – that he could be the prophet – so I followed him to see what was up.

Moderator

The Prophet, eh? John, you haven't said anything.

John

Yeshua's the man! I know he's the Prophet Moses told about.

Moderator

Excuse me, people, but isn't he just a regular carpenter?

Farmer 1

He fixed up a trough for me real good. He used a hammer and nails. Nothing special about that.

Sheep herder 1

I used to see him as a boy go up on the hill there at the edge of town and he'd just sit there for hours looking around him and thinking.

Sheep herder 2

Oh, yeah, I remember that too. I'd forgotten that. He just looked like every other kid, you know, just regular.

Farmer 2

He made me a mighty fine yoke for my ox. Well, I say mighty fine. It's about as fine as the local timber can produce. No imports here.

Moderator

Matthew, you've been awfully quiet.

Matthew

Like the rest of my crew, I'm not from around these parts. It's amazing to me that **no one here** in Yeshua's hometown can see him for the Prophet he is.

Yeshua

Remember, Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor.

Brother 2

Yeshua, man, cut us some slack.

Sister

Yeah, Yesh. If you want to be a prophet, go be a prophet.

Pious Priest

A prophet! Just because he can get up in the synagogue and give a few speeches, that doesn't make him a prophet! He's just a common person like anyone else in this town. Except me, of course.

Mayor

I'm not common!

Miriam

My boy can be anything he wants. He's a good boy...

Moderator

All right! We'll all agree that this is just a common, ordinary, one camel town. OK? But what I want to know is, Yeshua, what happened between being a sawdust laden yokel and becoming a prophet?

Yeshua

I'm glad you asked me that, Mr. Moderator. I left home when I turned 30 a few months ago, because I had a calling to do God's will. I was baptized in the Jordan a few miles down the way in the middle of Judea with water and Holy Spirit, had a month or more of intense training for the job, and went about the country side sharing the good news to all. I also healed a few people and expelled demons from others. That was to help people understand that the kingdom of God was near, and that the Son of Man was in their midst. I wanted them to understand that God loves them, even in their ordinary lives.

Brother 1

See, I told you he's not right.

Sister

Shut up! That's our brother! He's going to be famous one day.

Brother 2

Yeah, whatever.

Miriam

Now you all need to pay attention to your brother. A long time ago an angel told me he was going to be special.

Moderator

Angels? Holy Spirit? Baptism? Intense training? Now we're getting somewhere. So, Yeshua, is that how you changed from your common life?

Yeshua

Mr. Moderator, even though I lived a day-to-day ordinary life, I was able to see extraordinary things in it that I could use later in my ministry. On the hill I could see the

lilies of the field waving to and fro with their pretty white petals. I remember how the birds would fly about in the air, and it has proven a useful experience as I teach people and help them realize that if God takes care of the lilies of the field and the birds in the air how much more does he care for us ordinary people! The sawdust that would get everywhere when I worked – have you ever had a piece of dust in your eye? Boy how that can irritate! But it would help people to understand the principle of not judging others. The yokes I made for the farmers were out of this heavy wood that grows here, but it would help them to understand when I taught them that, just the opposite, my real yoke I give my followers is easy and my burden light. Yes, sir, it may seem ordinary at the time, but God can use those circumstances and the people in those circumstances to do extraordinary things. Look at my crew here. Common fishermen. A common tax collector that nobody would have welcomed. And...

Moderator

Ooo, Yeshua, I see why they call you the Rabbi – you can teach your tunic off. So, tell us, how much dough do you think you're going to pull down this year?

Yeshua

I turned five loaves of bread and some fish into a meal for thousands – is that what you mean?

Moderator

No man, I don't mean bread dough, I'm talking about shekels. Some precious metal.

Yeshua

Oh. I don't get paid for this. I do it out of love.

Matthew

Sure makes it easy at tax time.

Peter

I can dig the extra fishes, though.

James

Well, my papa said I'd never be a rich man.

John

What's money when you've got the Messiah!

Moderator

What's that? Messiah? David's Messiah Messiah?

Miriam

That's why people in Bethlehem were acting so strange. Yosef was right. Oh, such a blessing! A messiah for a son!

Pious Priest

The Messiah? The other priests are going to hear about this!

Farmers

Well, I remember he gave us fair prices when he was a carpenter.

Sheep herders

I heard some strange things about him from a story the old shepherds used to tell.

Yeshua

As I was saying. I left my private world here in Nazareth for a public one to become the one all scripture foretold. And to cure the commonality in the lives of all the people. like all of you. And for that, I will need to leave Nazareth yet again. We'll be heading out later.

Anyone from audience

Yeshua, please lay your hands on me and heal me before you go!

Another person from audience

Me too!

Moderator

Whoa! (with hand over one ear) What's that, Mike? We're losing the signal? Look folks that's all for this morning. This is WNAZ Nazareth signing off...

Mayor

Hey! I didn't get a chance to talk about my other accomplishments!

Moderator

When you get an airport in this backwater, maybe somebody else will come interview you. I'm outta here!

the end

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