

Taking Jesus Seriously

The teaching and ministry of Jesus provide opportunity to take Him seriously.

- *“And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.” (Luke 4:14–15, ESV)*

The prophecies made and fulfilled by Jesus give confidence to take Him seriously.

- *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”” (Luke 4:18–21, ESV)*

Preconceived ideas about Jesus can hinder taking Him seriously.

• *“And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”” (Luke 4:22, ESV)*

We are not taking Jesus seriously when we demand He conform to our expectations.

• *“And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.’ ”” (Luke 4:23, ESV)*

Even when we don't take Jesus seriously it is not that easy to get rid of Him.

• *“When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.” (Luke 4:28–30, ESV)*
