**Matthew 13:53 – 14:12**

**Introduction**

**1. Fascinated rejection: 13:53-58**

Listening to Jesus

Rejecting Jesus

**2. Fearful destruction: 14:1-12**

Silencing John

Suffering with Jesus

**For reflection**: Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.