



These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

## **Discussion Questions**

Date: August 19, 2018

### **Mark 6:14-29**

1. Though it is easy to criticize Herod, we have all acted like him in some ways. At some point in your life, you have been confronted in your sin, and rather than repent, you lashed out at the person who attempted to hold you accountable. What causes us “shoot the messenger” rather than heed the message?
2. Read Mark 6:14-16. How do you think Herod felt at this point? Did his feelings result in any kind of lasting change in his life?
3. How have you stifled conviction in your own life or resisted the Holy Spirit? Read Isaiah 63:10 and Zechariah 7:8-12. How do these passages warn you against hardening your heart to God’s word and his Spirit?
4. What was the cost to John the Baptist for following Christ? What might it have cost Herod to heed John’s warnings? What must we be willing to give up as Christ’s followers today?
5. Herod’s decision to live in his sin cost John his life. We often talk about all that sin has cost people, but for all the harm that sin brings, Christ brings even greater blessings. If you are a Christian, how has your personal relationship with Christ affected your family and others around you?
6. John the Baptist was imprisoned and ultimately died because he spoke God’s word. He knew that condemning the king was dangerous, but he also knew that it was necessary. Instead of finding an excuse NOT to share truth, John found an excuse TO share the truth. What excuse can you find this week to share the gospel with someone else?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize Hebrews 3:15. Discuss how you can be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit in your own lives.