

**A Costly Dance**  
**Mark 6:14-29**

Neil Trainer  
February 2, 2020



**NOTES**

**A Costly Dance**  
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Suggested Questions for Individual  
Study or Group Discussion\*



- If you could receive any special gift of your choosing for your next birthday, what would you ask for?
- *Read Mark 6:13-29.* Why does Mark include this flashback here in his gospel? How does this connect to the rest of the story?
- Why does Herod put John the Baptist in prison? What evidence do you see of Herod's mixed desires and motivations?
- What do John's actions reveal about his character and his mission?
- What about the message of God's kingdom can leave you puzzled or perplexed (cf. 6:20)?
- How does the story of John the Baptist foreshadow what will happen to Jesus later in the gospel?
- When can the pressure to please or impress people override the need obey God and do what's right? How do you respond when such situations arise?
- How might this story be heard by Christians facing persecution for their faith, whether Mark's original readers or today?
- How are Christians today called to "speak truth to power" in ways that are similar and/or different from John's approach? What cost might come with that?

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**For Family Discussion:** Ask: *Do you like to dance?* Read Mark 6:14-29. Ask: *Who do the people think Jesus was? Why does Herod put John into prison? What else could Herod have done? Who is most responsible for John's death? How do John and his followers show their faithfulness? What cost might we have to pay in order to be faithful to the Lord?*

\*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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