

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, July 5, 2015

Passage: Mark 6:30-44

Memory Passage: Mark 6:41-44

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 6:30-44.** Why was Jesus taking the disciples by themselves to a desolate place?
- (b) Why are so many people, “coming and going?”
- (c) Why would the crowd recognize and follow “them” rather than Jesus only?
- (d) How is this crowd different from other crowds described in Mark? How is it the same?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 6:30-44, Numb. 27:12-18, Ez. 34:1-24.** What does Jesus mean when he says the crowd was “like sheep without a shepherd” and how do these OT passages inform your explanation of this phrase?
- (b) What does Jesus’ compassion compel Him to do for the crowd (v. 34), and do you think this is what they expected?
- (c) What do you actually *do* when you are moved to compassion for someone? Is teaching them ever your first response? Why or why not?
- (d) What should the disciples, and you, learn from Jesus’ choice to delay the disciples’ rest in order to meet the needs of the crowd?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 6:30-44.** Why did the disciples suggest that Jesus send away the crowd? Was this a wrong request? Why?
- (b) If you were one of the Twelve, how would you have responded when Jesus told you to feed over 5000 people?
- (c) What does the disciples’ response reveal about the difficulty of Jesus’ request (1 denarii = one day’s wage)?
- (d) What types of things does Jesus ask you to do that you either respond to, or are tempted to respond to, in this manner?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 6:30-44.** Where did the disciples “go and see” when they found the loaves and fishes?
- (b) Mark continues his chapter 6 trend of providing more details than the other gospel writers. Why do you think it was important for him to give us the details of the crowd being grouped “by hundreds and by fifties?”
- (c) What is the significance of the leftovers filling “twelve baskets full?”
- (d) According to vs. 42-44 what was Mark’s primary purpose for us to understand in this miracle?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Mark 6:30-44, Matt. 14:13-21, Luke 9:10-17, & John 6:1-13.** This is the only miracle recorded by all three gospel writers. What similarities do you find between the 4 accounts? What differences do you find between the 4 accounts? What questions come to mind as you consider the differences, and what answers do you provide for your own questions?

(b) Write down at least 3 principles of compassion drawn from this text that you will apply in your ministry (e.g. “Sometimes the rest I think I need is found in serving and ministering to someone in need.”), and several ways you will apply each principle.

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The Compassionate Shepherd