

And we can't see the Lord's presence, and we can't see the Lord's hand, and we can't make sense of it, and we feel as if the Lord has abandoned us. The Lord Jesus let those disciples go a long time before He came to them. And He did it, not out of spite, but He did it to build them up in faith in Him. To see their own weakness, to see their own need, and then to see the sheer power at His disposal to answer that need." Duncan

Matthew 14:28-33: Jesus _____ **His twelve.**
The first time the disciples worshiped Him as a group...

Conclusion stuff:

Jesus got news of JB's death, and He had disciples who needed rest. Jesus Himself needed time to rest, process, grieve, and pray. Instead, on this day, He got "one of those days":

- Work to do.
- Disciples to teach.
- Demanding crowds to deal with
- More than He planned for.
- A normal day for many of us???

How about you?

1. How do you respond to the demands that people make on you?
2. In your daily life, what criteria do you use to determine whether or not you will help someone?
3. If you had to list three areas of your life that God "overlooks" when He bestows His love on you, what would you list?
4. Think about the last time when what you sought and what you got were totally different.
5. List some areas of your life where you could use more peace and less chaos.

Passages that describe some of God's promises that we can hold onto during times of stress:

Psalms 33:20	Psalms 34:7	Psalms 145:18	Proverbs 30:5
Isaiah 41:10	Isaiah 43:2	Matthew 28:20	John 16:33
Romans 8:17	Eph. 6:10-17	Hebrews 13:6	1 Peter 5:10

Series: Biblical Gen. Ed.

Title: One of Those Days

Topic: The depths of true compassion

Introduction:

Mark 6: 7-13: Leading up to our lesson text:

7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits; 8 and He instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belt— 9 but to wear sandals; and He added, "Do not put on two tunics." 10 And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. 11 Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them." 12 They went out and preached that men should repent. 13 And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.

Lesson:

Mark 6:30-34 The twelve return:

People coming and going: The grammar here pictures this as streams of people happening again and again. Presumably as one group would be going, another group would be coming.
They did not have time to eat: meaning they did not have a convenient time or a favorable time to eat.

Numbers 27:16: *"May the LORD, the God who gives breath to all living things, appoint someone over this community 17 to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the LORD's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd*

He taught them many things.

Luke 9:10: *When the apostles returned, they gave an account to Him of all that they had done. Taking them with Him, He withdrew by Himself to a city called Bethsaida. 11 But the crowds were aware of this and followed Him; and welcoming them, He began speaking to them about the kingdom of God and curing those who had need of healing.*



What we know so far:

- Jesus had sent the 12 on an assignment that took days or weeks.
- JTB was murdered by Herod.
- The 12 returned and reported to Jesus.
- Jesus gathers them into a boat to get some rest in a secluded place. (Near Bethsaida.)
- The crowds ran on foot ahead of the boat's passage.
- Jesus had compassion on the crowd and taught them about the kingdom of God. (He shepherded the shepherd-less.)

Matthew 14:12-14: Jesus tries for some "_____ " time.

Jesus was sorrowful, tired, ready to be alone with His disciples...

He healed their sick, despite His own needs and their earthly materialistic motivations for following Him. Jesus postponed His rest, His privacy, His time alone with the 12, in order to meet the needs of the sick.

One of the lessons that He might have been teaching to His disciples is the _____ to minister.

Compassion – in the verb form is used only in the NT by Matt. (5), Mark (4), and Luke (3). It means to feel deep sympathy.

"Shepherd-less sheep are people trying to navigate life on their own (and sheep are not very smart!). Spiritually speaking the crowds had no one to lead them on the path of true life, eternal life. Note the term of explanation *because* (back in Mark 6:34) which explains Jesus' compassion for the oncoming crowd. And so, we see the heart of Jesus, because instead of resenting the interruption by the crowds, He was deeply moved and overcome with compassion. Jesus was coming for rest, but quickly adjusted His mindset." Hurt Commentary

Did Jesus heal people that would later sin?

Did He heal people who would not say thank you?

Did he heal people who would later yell, "Crucify"?

When He healed, did He overlook the past and the future?

Does God ask you to prove that your wages will be put to good use?

Does He shut off your oxygen when you misuse your gifts?

Back then...and still today:

God's goodness is motivated by _____ nature, not by _____ worthiness.

About compassion: Jesus' response to the crowds should teach all of us as His disciples that _____ is an important attribute if we are to walk in His footsteps. Are you able to cope with sudden changes in circumstances? Are you able (willing) to be "bent" or "flexed?"

How do you respond when unforeseen circumstances force a change in your ministry plans? Or, in this holiday month, how do you react when your plans are unexpectedly interrupted?

Matthew 14:22: Jesus tries _____ for some "alone" time.

So, the disciples take another boat ride to make a 2nd attempt to "get away".

John 6:13-15:

¹³ So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.

Jesus, who needed some alone time, had compassion on them, taught and healed...however, He would not allow them to make Him a political king.

Matthew 14:23-27: Jesus spends time alone with His _____.

Jesus let those disciples go a long time (6-9 hours) in the storm before He came to them.

When we face trials ourselves, it is well for us to remember that Jesus knows what is happening. And He is _____ taken by surprise by it. And He is _____ us!

One pastor's view:

"I think very often in the midst of our trials, we keep looking for the light at the end of the tunnel. And in some of our trials that light never shows up. We feel like we keep going further and further and further in the tunnel. 3*4