Week # 14 Mark 6:30-44 The Kingdom of God is at Hand

Reflect and Discuss

What do you think was Jesus' purpose in having the apostles report about their mission? What benefit is there in sharing failures with a group? What benefit in sharing successes? Do you have a tendency to work too much or too little?

When Jesus invited the disciples to come away to a remote place, what does that say about the balance of work and rest?

What would be your ideal timing for periods of rest?

What kind of activity in what kind of place restores your spiritual energy and equips you to resume life with renewed vigor?

Are peoples' "felt needs" sometimes different from what they really need?

How should our compassion for others, reflect Jesus' compassion?

How can you determine what are the real needs of the people to whom you minister?

Read verses 30-34. a) How does Jesus demonstrate in these verses what a shepherd is? b) How does Jesus demonstrate what a shepherd does? (Notice the word "so" in verse 34.)

Read verses 35-37. What is Jesus trying to get across to his disciples in the conversation of these verses? How is he an example of what he is trying to teach them?

What does the feeding of the 5,000 teach us about Jesus, the nature of Jesus' person, and His work? (Hint: why does Mark call it a "remote place" twice when it is clear that there are towns nearby to get food?)

Mark 6:42 (ESV): And they all ate and were satisfied. What lesson can we glean from this verse?

Mark 6:43(ESV) And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. What is significance about the number of baskets leftover?

DIGGING DEEPER The Miracle of God's Provision - Larry Osborne Discussion Guide