

Ask that God would illuminate the Scriptures & speak truth to your hearts. Pray that you would see people through Jesus' eyes and be willing to give what you have so you can partner with what God is doing.

### **Read Mark 6:30-44**

(If you want to read the story in all the Gospels & compare them, the other accounts can be found in Matthew 14:13-21, Luke 9:10-17, and John 6:1-15)

Summarize everything that's happened so far in Mark 4-6. What are some of the circumstances that might make Jesus suggest some time away for a rest?

\* Where the disciples saw a crowd of needy strangers to be dismissed, Jesus saw individual **People to Gather**.

Compare "being known" to "being just one of the crowd." How was Jesus hospitable to the crowd? How can we be hospitable to both the group (the body of Christ) and the individuals that come to the Bridge?

\* Where the disciples saw a problem too big to fix, Jesus saw **Potential for Growth**.

It was late afternoon and everyone was hungry and tired. Think about some of the other scenarios that could have happened: what was possible for Jesus to do? What Did he do and how did that affect the people differently than the other scenarios? (*i.e. He COULD have turned the rocks into bread but then the disciples wouldn't get to participate. Think of several scenarios and see if you get any wisdom about why Jesus did it the way he did.*)

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. What do these verses tell us about God and people?

Does anyone have a story of when God miraculously provided for them? Has anyone seen Jesus multiply their efforts and produce a God-sized outcome rather than a man-sized outcome?

Is there anything you've said "I can't" to out of fear? Is there anything God's asked you to do and you've said, "When I have \_\_\_\_\_, then I'll do that."

What would be possible/impossible if you say "yes" right now?

\* Where the disciples saw pointlessness, Jesus had a **Purpose**.

What are some of the things Jesus revealed about himself through this miracle?

Read Mark 10:42-45. How does this make you feel? How did Jesus demonstrate this in our passage? Read John 6:22-69. What connections do you see to our passage in Mark?

**At the end of your time, give everyone a chance to share their answers to these questions:**

What does this Scripture tell us about God?

What does it tell us about people and what our response to God should be?

Is there anything I misunderstood before or believed that was wrong and needs correcting? (Is there a point I'm missing?)

Does this Scripture reveal any disobedience in me that I need to repent of? (What correction is God bringing? How is He changing my mind?)