Pastor Dustin Daniels | River Bible Church Mark 6:45-56 | Discipleship: The Life of the "Do-Over" December 13, 2020

PRAY:

REVIEW & INTRODUCTION:

Last week we saw how Jesus fulfilled the OT scriptures as the Good Shepherd.

The Holy Spirit taught us how the miraculous feeding of 20,000 people was a second Exodus—it was a "do-over" for mankind.

He also taught us how Jesus' focus was on the training of the Twelve Apostles with that feeding.

It was a test in discipleship.

Jesus Locantiust MKeBelieurs, but Disciplos,

Jesus said, "You feed them."

The Twelve had to admit that this command from Jesus was an impossible task.

It brought them to a crisis.

KEYPOINTS:

- Rather than relieving the crisis, Jesus intensifies it.
- The disciples focused on the obstacles instead of Jesus.

Unfortunately, the Twelve Apostles missed the main point of the feeding miracle last week.

And because they missed the main point, they too need a "do-over."

Have you ever noticed that in your personal life?

If you miss the point of what God is trying to teach you, He continues to bring the same people, places, events and issues around and around until you get it right?

There are seasons in our life to where as a disciple of Jesus, we tend to live in the land of the "do-overs." That Jesus is trying to teach

the tope to So the Twelve immediately find themselves in another crisis.

Will this crisis strengthen their faith? Or will it harden their hearts even further?

Will they have to bo it over next were

Let's find out!

What so the losson

SCRIPTURE: Mark 6:45-52 CSB

Mark 6:45—Immediately He made his disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He dismissed the crowd.

Mark 6:46— After He said good-bye to them, He went away to the mountain to pray.

Mark 6:47—Well into the night, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land.

Mark 6:48— He saw them straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Very early in the morning He came toward them walking on the sea and wanted to pass by them.

Mark 6:49— When they saw Him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out,

Mark 6:50— because they all saw Him and were terrified. Immediately He spoke with them and said, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Mark 6:51—Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased.

They were completely astounded,

Mark 6:52— because they had not understood about the loaves. Instead, their hearts were hardened.

Mark 6:53— When they had crossed over, they came to shore at Gennesaret and anchored there.

Mark 6:54—As they got out of the boat, people immediately recognized Him.

Mark 6:55— They hurried throughout that region and began to carry the sick on mats to wherever they heard He was.

Mark 6:56— Wherever he went, into villages, towns, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged Him that they might touch just the end of His robe. And everyone who touched it was healed.

These are the very words of God

EXEGESIS:

Mark 6:45—Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He dismissed the crowd.

After Jesus feeds over 20,000 from a boy's sack lunch, Jesus tells the Twelve Apostles to leave—to leave immediately.

So what's the rush, Jesus?

Why not hang out in all your glory with all these people?

Cospel of John tells we why there's A M

cf. John 6:13 NCV—When the people saw this miracle that Jesus did, they said, "He must truly be the Prophet who is coming into the world."

ef. John 6:14 NCV—Jesus knew that the people planned to come and take Him by force and make Him their king, so He left and went into the hills alone.

Herod Antipas now has another reason to fear.

Jesus just fed 20,000 people for free.

They are now hoping that Jesus is going to overthrow Antipas and the Romans.

The crowd is starting to get worked up into a frenzy.

But Jesus knows that the crowd's enthusiasm is misguided.

They are only concerned about themselves.

Can't you just picture the crowd making those gaudy political signs and placing them at the crosswalk intersections around town.

"Vote for Jesus—FREE FOOD!"

Jesus is the new social security program.

Jesus is ushering the new gospel of social justice and social reform.

No, Jesus is not going to do that.

(soldent need to run for office After a full day's worth of teaching, the crowd still missed the core of Jesus' gospel message.

Jesus is insisting on spiritual transformation, not a political revolution.

Jesus is not a religious revolutionary.

He's not going to entertain plans for a governmental overthrow.

Jesus told Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this world." (cf. John 18:36).

Jesus' Ringdom is first A spiritual Ringdom

The crowd is ahead of themselves in their theology.

Jesus as the Messiah will one day return to establish His kingdom on earth (cf. Rev. 20:1–6)

Jesus will fulfill all that the prophets predicted—but not now.

This is the first coming of Jesus as Messiah. The first coming is all about grace.

The second coming of Jesus is about judgment.

So Jesus knows what the crowd is getting ready to do—try to force Him to be their King.

That's the urgency here in verse 45...

Mark 6:45—Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go affect of Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He dismissed the crowd.

Jesus is firm and insistent. He compels/forces the Twelve to go. They have no choice.

"Alright guys, I need you to get in the boat right now I'll meet you in Bethsaida."

John 6:16 CSB - A Rich wind drise, and the sed began to churn

"But Jesus"... "No, buts...trust me on this-I need you to get moving right now."

The Twelve were reluctant to go.

They wanted to see the crowd's plan carried out—they also want Jesus to be this religious revolutionary who provides physical healing and free food.

They wanted to revel in what the crowd is doing!

They wanted to stay and bask in the glory of this miraculous moment.

The crowd's response is the fruit of the ministry! The harvest has come...so they thought.

So Jesus' instructions must have seemed really strange—almost unreasonable.

KEYPOINT:

Jesus makes the Twelve to do things they don't want to do.

Regardless, after sending His disciples away in the boat, Jesus stayed to dismiss the crowd.

There is no doubt that Jesus' purpose was to calm the people down.

As the Twelve set sail for Bethsaida, the Apostle John gives us an important detail in his gospel.

cf. **John 6:18 CSB**—A high wind arose, and the sea began to churn.

Uh, no. That doesn't sound good.

Back to our text...

Mark 6:46— After Jesus said good-bye to them, He went away to the mountain to pray.

Jesus' praying here is further evidence of this Messianic fervor of the crowd.

Notice where Jesus goes to pray—a mountain.

Mountains in the Gospels (see Mark 3:13; 9:2) are symbolic of divine revelation.

Just as Moses went up the mountain to Mount Sinai during the first Exodus, we see Jesus go up a mountain to pray for the second Exodus

Mark 6:47—Well into the night, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and Jesus was alone on the land.

Well into the night / when it was evening— between six and nine o'clock at night.

This verse is a problem because the Sea of Galilee is only four miles wide.

Let's back up...Jesus fed the crowds earlier somewhere between 3pm-6pm.

So the Twelve have been on the water at this point anywhere from three to six hours.

Usually, to make this trip usually only takes one to two hours, max.

Mark 6:48— Me saw them straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Very early in the morning Jesus came toward them walking on the sea and wanted to pass by them.

Jesus saw them — This is a supernatural seeing. We're seeing Jesus divinity here.

The Twelve are in a small boat in the middle of the Sea of Galilee.

There's a storm raging, and Jesus is not with them. This is not good.

But, Jesus see's them—And He supernaturally sees the because He is God.

Jesus fulfills the Words of OT Scripture.

cf. **Psalm 139:1 NLT**—You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'ra far away.

cf. **Psalm 139:3 NLT**—You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do.

To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.

Jesus always knows where His sheep are.

He saw them straining at the oars—Struggling, Toiling—more literally, "tortured" by the storm.

The picture here is that The Twelve are in dire straits.

They are in physical pain, agitated, and they are starting to panic.

What do you think is going through their mind at this moment?

Remember the first storm in Mark 4? First Storm

And Jesus calmed the winds and waves with a word? Enough!

Can't you picture Andrew saying, "If only Jesus were with them now!"

Peter yells back, "He's not. He's on land! He can't help us now. Keep rowing!"

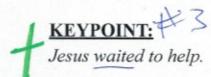
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Very early in the morning, Jesus came toward them—Wait a second, Jesus saw them somewhere between 6pm-9pm. - FINT PART OF VERSE 48,

Now it's very early in the morning, somewhere between 3am-6am.

That's anywhere from a nine to twelve-hour difference in time.

Apparently, Jesus had continued His prayer session well past midnight.



Jesus waiting is not an isolated case.

We saw Him wait more than two days to visit Mary and Martha when their brother Lazarus died.

Mary said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died!" (John 11:32)

Jesus waits to help.

Back to ...

Mark 6:48— Very early in the morning Jesus came toward them walking on the sea and wanted to pass by them.

There is no possibility of translating "walking on the sea" in any other way.

Many people want to argue this point, but there is no way around this...Jesus walked on the water.

Jesus is doing something no mortal can do.

And wanted to pass by them.

Jesus literally "wished" or "desired," "to come alongside of."

Question: Why would Jesus get to the boat and then keep walking?

We had beautiful OT imagery last week with the feeding and we have it again here.

4 want to show you two more examples/today.

Moses says,

cf. Exodus 33:18 CSB—"Please, let me see your glory."

cf. **Exodus 33:19 CSB**— He said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name 'the Lord' before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."

cf. Exodus 33:20 CSB—But he added, "You cannot see my face, for humans cannot see me and live."

cf. **Exodus 33:21 CSB**— The Lord said, "Here is a place near me. You are to stand on the rock,

cf. **Exodus 33:22 CSB**— and when my glory passes by I will put you in the crevice of the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

cf. Exodus 33:23 CSB— Then I will take my hand away, and you will see my back, but my face will not be seen."

Three times in this passage, God spoke of <u>passing by Moses</u> so that he could experience God's glory.

But Moses row SAN Als face.

In the second example, in 1 Kings 19, Elijah fled from the wicked Queen Jezebel and hid in a cave at Mount Sinai. God appeared to him and asked,

cf. 1 Kings 19:9 CSB— "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

cf. 1 Kings 19:10 CSB— He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of Armies, but the Israelites have abandoned your covenant, torn down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are looking for me to take my life."

ocf. 1 Kings 19:11 CSB— Then He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the Lord's presence." At that moment, the Lord passed by,

Elijah is at the end of himself—he has lost all hope—BUT the Lord passes by.

Let's talk theology-the study of God.

When God revealed Himself in the Old Testament like this, He often did so through what's called a *theophany*.

Theos, which means "God," and phano, which means "to manifest, show, demonstrate, or display."

Combine the two, and we get our English word, Theophany.

So, a theophany is a demonstration of God in some type of visible form.

There are many theophanies in the OT.

One of the most famous is when God appeared to Moses as a burning bush. That, too, was a theophany. (Exodus 3)

This is what happened on the Sea of Galilee, sort of.

Jesus made Himself a theophany to the Twelve.

Mark 6:48 is a *Christophany*. The appearance of Christ as the Messiah in all His glory.

As Jesus was walking on water, probably not even wet, the glory of God bursts forth through the humanity of Jesus.

It is no coincidence that in the middle of their agony, they looked up and saw the glory of God passing them by.

In walking on water toward the disciples, Jesus walks where only God can walk.

Job prophesied about Jesus...

cf. Job 9:8 CSB— He alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea.

cf. **Job 9:11 CSB**— If He passed by me, I wouldn't see him; if He went by, I wouldn't recognize him.

Our Brother Job is reiterating the awesome separation between God and humanity.

God can do what mankind cannot even think of doing.

God cannot be fully seen, and that's why Moses, Abraham, and Elijah only saw a certain aspect of God's glory.

Here's the thing, but Jesus can be seen.

He is both truly divine and truly human.

Jesus is a living theophany.

This is why Matthew quotes Isaiah 7:14 in his gospel. (Matt 1:23)

See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name Him Immanuel, which is translated as "God is with us."

The Lord God Almighty— the creator of the Heavens and the Earth—who was once unknowable and unrecognizable face to face— is now "passing by" the Twelve.

Jesus walking on water is not a cool party trick.

Jesus continues to fulfill OT prophecies. Let me show you another...

cf. **Psalm 77:19 CSB**—Your way went through the sea and your path through the vast water, but your footprints were unseen.

Jesus' ways are not our ways. His thoughts are not our thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8)

Back to our text...

Mark 6:49— When they saw Him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out,

So it's an understatement to say that the Twelve were not immediately aware that they were seeing the glory of God.

Now, if you were in a small boat—in the middle of a storm—in fear for your life—pitch black, it's the dead of night—and you saw a form of a man coming toward you, how would you respond?

You would scream like a ten year old little girl—just like these grown men!

Cried out-screamed in terror.

It is same the word used when people are possessed by demons and they see Jesus. They screamed in utter dread.

Imagine the chaos in the boat right NOW .

The Twelve are upset with Jesus because He made them leave the party.

And then this storm shows up to make things even worse.

After hours of yelling at each other amid the storm, they still have enough energy to scream in terror.

Being afraid of the storm is one thing; seeing a ghost is another.

Mark 6:50— because they <u>all saw Him</u> and were terrified. Immediately Jesus spoke with them and said, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Notice here that they all saw Jesus walk on water.

Not just one guy who thinks he kinda-sorta saw Jesus do this.

No one is hallucinating here from fear and exhaustion.

Now, when they saw Jesus, did that bring them comfort?

No, it terrified them even more!

Terrified—"to throw into a panic." The picture here is that the Twelve were "struck with dread."

Their response to Jesus reiterates the OT theophanies—

When a human meets the Living God face to face, there is a pattern in Scripture.

- Human dread—"Oh no, I'm about to die."
- Divine identification—God has to introduce Himself formally.
- God gives Words of assurance.

That is precisely what is happening here. The twelve see the Slovy of Abylity Col-file will have dress

Back to

Mark 6:50— Immediately, Jesus spoke with them and said, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Jesus gives two commands—one positive and one negative. "It is I" - Jesus introduces timself

Have courage—words of assurance.

Be not afraid— "Stop being afraid"—demanded a permanent end to their fears.

The phrase "it is I" could literally be translated, "I am."

Meaning, "I, Yahweh, (the Supreme Being of the universe) am here!"

Don't miss this. J. Jesus greets them within divine self-revelation, "I am." - Wile WAIRING

Jesus confirms the theophany just like He did throughout the OT.

this Mohen We have more OT prophetie imagery being fulfilled. 14 Jous

Because the previous Attendon leave Jesus to commanded the disciples to pass through the waters.

He told the disciples to get in the boat and go to Bethsaida,...not get on a boat so you can drown.

cf. Isaiah 43:2 CSB—When you pass through the waters, I will be with you and the rivers will not overwhelm you...

cf. Isaiah 43:3 CSB— For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, and your Savior.

As Jesus approached the boat, He deliberately changed His course so that He would come alongside the boat.

It's here where Matthew records the famous account of Peter walking on water.

cf. **Matthew 14:28 CSB**— "Lord, if it's you," Peter answered him, "command me to come to you on the water."

cf. **Matthew 14:29 CSB**— He said, "Come." And climbing out of the boat,

Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus.

cf. Matthew 14:30 CSB— But when he saw the strength of the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

cf. Matthew 14:31 CSB— Immediately Jesus reached out his hand, caught hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

cf. Matthew 14;32 CSB— When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

cf. Matthew 14:33 CSB— Then those in the boat worshiped him and said, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Back to ...

Mark 6:51— Then he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. They were completely astounded,

The wind ceased—stopped blowing, as though it also had grown tired.

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The wind ceased—stopped blowing, as though it also had grown tired.

There is an unmistakable tie between Jesus getting into the boat and the calming of the wind.

Only when Jesus joins the disciples in the boat does the storm die.

We have more OT imagery.

cf. **Psalm 89:9 CSB**—You rule the raging sea; when its waves surge, you still them.

Being with Jesus is not merely a theological concept.

It also has practical application to our lives.

Jesus' presence brings peace and safety in the storm.

Back to ...

Mark 6:51—Then Jesus got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased.

They were completely astounded,

Why were the Twelve astounded?

Manuscript	Discipleship: The Life of the "Do-Over"	Page 18 of 24
LMark 6:52 These	ause they <u>had not understood</u> about the	logues Instead
their hearts were		loaves. Instead,
Their disbellef too	k the form of misunderstanding.	
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	formed about what God's Word says, and we can other people's lives	an be amazed at
But we can still re	efuse to believe He will come to our aid in our	times of trouble.
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	we been the discipley response or their sinch in	
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Verse 52 gives us	two problems:	. the crowd.
		mism derstanding
 The discipl Their heart 	es had not understood the miracle the day priors were hardened.	dustanding.
Hard hearts (spirit	ually insensitive).	

And when Jesus care them are we in a boat, it got made

KEYPOINT:

It's impossible to have faith with a hardened heart.

Faith is not the result of knowing about Jesus.

Faith is not the result of even being with Jesus physically—we see this throughout the gospels.

Faith is not something that happens automatically.

Faith IS a personal decision to trust Jesus.

The disciples thought Jesus was the Son of God (good theology), but they didn't Whim (bad application).

According to Matthew 14:33, the response of the disciples turned to worship:

Then those in the boat worshiped im and said, 'Truly you are the Son of God."

This verse is huge It's the turning point for the Twelve. It's at this moment, during this crisis that they get it.

Worship should have been the disciples' response earlier when Jesus fed the crowd of tens of thousands of people.

But they apparently they allowed themselves to get caught up in the enthusiasm of the crowd.

Instead of seeing the presence of God in Jesus, they saw the presence of a religious revolutionary.

They didn't understand or they didn't want to understand.

And when Jesus sent them away in a boat, it just made them mad and confused.

This Christophany was necessary in order to strengthen their faith, because they didn't learn the lesson from the miracle of the loaves.

The outcome of that miracles hardened their heart.

Jesus walking on the water was a "do-over." For the Theve

Mark 6:53— When they had crossed over, they came to shore at Gennesaret and anchored there.

Here we see yet another miracle.

The disciples originally intended to go directly to Bethsaida, but the Lord supernaturally and instantaneously placed their boat at Gennesaret.

of. John 6:21 CSB ... at once the boat was at the shore where they were heading.
So As Soon is stess Get in the boat, They're by And

Obviously the storm had drifted the boat off course.

But, storm or no storm, they landed precisely where Jesus wanted them to be.

Mark 6:54—As they got out of the boat, people immediately recognized Jesus.

Mark 6:55— They hurried throughout that region and began to carry the sick on mats to wherever they heard He was.

Mark 6:56— Wherever He went, into villages, towns, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged Him that they might touch just the end of His robe. And everyone who touched it was healed.

Venes 54-56 Arc Summy veses

As Jesus and the disciples walked from Gennesaret to Bethsaida, the Lord continued to show compassion to needly people, both along the way and once He finally arrived in Capernaum.

PREACH:

Isn't it good news that Jesus never gives up on the disciples despite their failures?

It's God's grace that we can live in the land of "do-overs."

Jesus takes the Twelve through the whole process again and again and again so that they may understand.

KEYPOINT:

Jesus does not require disciples to grasp things immediately.

And yet, Jesus wants you to understand the main point as soon as you can to move you along to the next crisis.

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Jesus sail, You will have trabbs...

"Dustin, I don't want any more crisis in life."

KEYPOINT:

Jesus' presence is the antidote to your fear and doubt. (1)

Jesus knows that full understanding will not come until after His death and resurrection.

But you must deal with your doubt and fear.

cf. James 1:6 GW—When you ask for something, don't have any doubts. A person who has doubts is like a wave that is blown by the wind and tossed by the sea.

Jesus comes as a Christophany to rescue his floundering disciples—who are proud, dazed and confused...just like us.

The Twelve not only meet God in the person of Jesus Christ, but they also learned about themselves through Finn. West Clistes,

The disciples see more than God's back, as Moses did; they saw the face of God in the face of his son.

One of the saddest things about this narrative is that not one of the Twelve recognized Jesus when they needed Him most.

Is that happening to you today?

Is God passing you by?

And if Jesus is passing by you, do you recognize Him?

Is Jesus bringing you peace in the middle of your storm, or is the sight of Him terrifying you?

We don't live in an age where we witness a Christophany.

The narratives in the Bible are not normative.

When you read the Word of God, by the Spirit of God, over and over cover to

The clearest revelation for us to experience God is in His Word.

When you read the Word of God, by the Spirit of God, over and over, cover to cover, you will experience God.

PRAYER:

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