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Leader Guide

Nothing They Need

November 6, 2022

Main Passage: Mark 6:30-44

Theological Theme

There are people with needs all around us. We should be moved by compassion like Jesus even if it makes us vulnerable.

Introduction

- ? What is a survival story you've found interesting?
- ? When have you ever been in a place where you were desperate for food or water? What happened?

1. See Jesus's Compassion (Mark 6:30-34)

Jesus's compassion for the disciples led them to a desolate place, but the crowds saw them and ran ahead so that when Jesus and His disciples arrived by boat a multitude waited on them. When God is at work, people will notice and be drawn to it. That is exactly what happened that day.

- ? How have you seen too much work, rest, or ministry cause unbalance in your life and make you less effective?
- ? When have you experienced a change in what you expected that turned out to be a God-ordained opportunity? What would you have missed out on if not given this opportunity?
- ? Application: How do you need to be involved in sharing Jesus with people who need Him?

2. See the Need (Mark 6:35-38)

Jesus saw the crowd and had compassion on them. The tired disciples who were expecting a quiet get away saw the same crowd with the same needs and reacted differently. After Jesus taught the people, feeding them the Word of God, it was late in the day, and everyone had a new need—food and physical nourishment. But they were in a wilderness area with no options to meet their overwhelming need.

- ? What situation do you need to ask Jesus about instead of assuming you know how best to respond to a need or neglecting the opportunity to minister altogether?
- ? What do you need to trust God with so that He can do more than your circumstances would suggest?
- ? Application: How does God want to stretch your faith through this story of Jesus seeing the need of the crowd and responding with compassion?

3. See the Miraculous (Mark 6:39-44)

It didn't look like there was enough food for everyone. Those five loaves and two fish wouldn't make it very far in the crowd. But Jesus took the food, looked up to heaven, and blessed God for His provision.

- ❓ What do you need to trust Jesus with instead of complaining that it is not enough?
- ❓ When have you missed out on what Jesus offered because you wanted something else? How did that work out?
- ❓ Application: What keeps you from experiencing God's work in your life? What needs to change?

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

- ❓ What does this passage say?
- ❓ What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about man?
- ❓ What does this passage demand of me?
- ❓ How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
- ❓ How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).