

Living Water Fellowship

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT
28TH FEBRUARY 2021

COME TO JESUS

WELCOME:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of healing and wholeness, we come with thanksgiving for all the evidence of your goodness and mercy. Lives bruised with tragedy find consolation when touched by your gracious Spirit. Lives scarred with suffering and rejection have hope renewed through the power of the living Christ. We praise and adore you for hearts and lives transformed by your wisdom and grace, and we pray that our lives will reflect your kindness. Arouse in us a love like yours so that we reach out to this wounded and troubled world with the compassion of Christ, proclaiming the gospel to friends and strangers alike. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SONG: Man of Sorrows

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Mark 6:30-44

FAITH CHAT:

THE MESSAGE: ADDITION BY SUBTRACTION: LESS SELF MORE SACRIFICE

PRAYERS:

COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship Video during Communion: Sing to Jesus (Robbie Seay Band)

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**(Name) + child of God,
Christ fills you with himself
so you can share him with others. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEW SONG: When The Heart Goes Out (AT 647)

SHOW HIS LOVE

MARK 6:30-44

The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour & told him all they had done & taught.³¹ Then Jesus said, “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place & rest awhile.” He said this because there were so many people coming & going that Jesus & his apostles didn’t even have time to eat.

³² So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. ³³ But many people recognized them & saw them leaving, & people from many towns ran ahead along the shore & got there ahead of them. ³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, & he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

³⁵ Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him & said, “This is a remote place, & it’s already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms & villages & buy something to eat.” ³⁷ But Jesus said, “You feed them.”

“With what?” they asked. “We’d have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!” ³⁸ “How much bread do you have?” he asked. “Go & find out.” They came back & reported, “We have five loaves of bread & two fish.” ³⁹ Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred.

⁴¹ Jesus took the five loaves & two fish, looked up toward heaven, & blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. ⁴² They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ & afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread & fish. ⁴⁴ A total of 5,000 men & their families were fed.

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Mark 6:30-44. What questions immediately come to mind? Does your familiarity with this text hinder your hearing it fully? How will you listen to it today?
2. Note Mk 6:6-13 as it precedes the events in 6:30-44. What is the disciples’ attitude on their return from their ministry tour? What is their attitude here? How do you account for the change?
3. What was Jesus’ “plan” before he was interrupted by the crowds? What do you learn about God through the fact that Jesus was sensitive to the physical condition of His disciples?
4. What was Jesus’ primary concern for the crowd? What was the first thing Jesus did? Do we still prioritize the spiritual needs of people in the way that we see others & do the work of Jesus? Do we sometimes have to meet a physical need first & then address the spiritual? Why is that?
5. What does it mean to be “sheep without a shepherd”? The Old Testament often referred to the religious leaders & secular authorities as the “shepherds” of Israel. What was the problem with those “shepherds” according to the prophets? How does that understanding fit with the way Jesus related to the religious & secular authorities of his day?

For deeper & more extended study & learning: Read Gen 48:15, Num 27:17, Ps 23:1-4, & Is 40:11. Note the contrast between these verses and what God declares in Jer 23:2-4 and Ezk 34:10-16. How do these texts shed light on Jesus’ identity and mission? (note also John 10:11 & Jer 3:15)?

6. Why did Jesus have the disciples collect the leftovers? What’s the point of feeding a multitude AND having leftovers? How has Jesus provided for you in such a way as to have some leftover perhaps to share generously?
7. Note also Mt. 14:13-21, Lk 9:10-17, & Jn 6:1-13. This is the only miracle recorded by all the gospel writers. What similarities/differences do you find among the 4 accounts? What questions come to mind as you consider the parallels? How would you answer your own questions?
8. If Jesus told you to “sit down” while he miraculously met your most immediate need; what would he do for you?