

FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

From Weariness to Wonder | Mark 6:31-56

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This passage captures a powerful stretch of Jesus' ministry where His compassion and authority are on full display. The disciples return from mission weary, only to be drawn into deeper dependence on Jesus. Across four scenes—rest, provision, storm, and healing—we see how Jesus meets people in their need. Yet the responses vary: the disciples struggle to understand, while the crowds respond with eager faith.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

When you feel overwhelmed or exhausted, what is your natural response—withdraw, push through, or ask for help?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Rest Interrupted by Compassion (vv. 31-34)

1. What does Jesus' invitation to "come away and rest" reveal about His heart for His disciples?

2. Why do you think Jesus responds with compassion instead of frustration when the crowd interrupts?

3. What does it mean that the people were "like sheep without a shepherd"?

4. How does Jesus meeting their spiritual need first challenge our priorities?

Insufficiency Met by Provision (vv. 35-44)

- 5. How do the disciples initially respond to the problem? What does that reveal about their perspective?

- 6. Why do you think Jesus tells them, “You give them something to eat”?

- 7. What stands out to you about how Jesus uses the five loaves and two fish?

- 8. What does the abundance (12 baskets left over) teach us about Jesus’ provision?

Fear Met by His Presence (vv. 45-52)

- 9. What do you notice about the disciples being sent into the storm—what does that teach about following Jesus?

10. How does it encourage you that Jesus “saw” them struggling even while He was on the mountain?

11. Why were the disciples afraid when they saw Jesus walking on the water?

12. What does verse 52 reveal about why they didn’t understand what was happening?

Need Met by Faith (vv. 53-56)

13. How is the response of the people different from that of the disciples?

14. What does their urgency to bring the sick to Jesus reveal about their belief?

15. Why is it significant that people only wanted to touch the fringe of His garment?

16. What does this section teach us about the nature of faith?

PERSONAL DEVOTION

- Where are you currently feeling weary, lacking, fearful, or in need?
- Are you responding more like the disciples (confused, slow to trust) or the crowds (eager, desperate for Jesus)?
- What would it look like for you this week to actively trust that Jesus is enough in that area?

QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS
