



## *Sacred Space – Sacred Ministry*

Read Mark 6:30-34 and Mark 6:53-56

1. What does Jesus intend for his disciples by inviting them to rest awhile?
2. Do you have a place where you can be alone to pause, reflect and rest?
  - a. Why is rest important to Jesus?
3. Have you ever felt oppressed by people, schedules and demands?
4. Imagine Jesus shows up in your gathering spaces - what would the reaction be?
5. The people run after the boat(s), going from town to town along the lakeside – Do you *pursue* time with Jesus?
  - a. How committed are you to hearing and understanding His Word, His Law?
6. We pray for our needs, just as the crowds along the shore lifted up their needs to Jesus – what else can we pray for?
7. There was a lot of “crossing over” on boats – what do think that means?
  - a. Perhaps you need to leave something behind in order to be with Jesus?
  - b. Will you risk stepping away from the familiar and comfortable, and follow Jesus to some new situation?
8. Jesus (and His disciples) have barely had a chance to rest or to eat, yet reacted with grace, compassion, and no trace of resentment. Do you feel they received enough rest?
9. How do you find (know) the correct balance between prayer (quiet rest, peace) and activity (ministering to others)?

## Mark 6:30-34

<sup>30</sup> The apostles [sent out as missionaries] came back *and* gathered together to Jesus, and told Him all that they had done and taught.

<sup>31</sup> And He said to them, [As for you] come away by yourselves to a deserted place, and rest a while—for many were [continually] coming and going, and they had not even leisure enough to eat.

<sup>32</sup> And they went away in a boat to a solitary place by themselves.

<sup>33</sup> Now many [people] saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the surrounding towns, and they got there ahead [of those in the boat].

<sup>34</sup> As Jesus landed, He saw a great crowd waiting, and He was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

## Mark 6:53-56

<sup>53</sup> And when they had crossed over, they reached the land of Gennesaret and <sup>[a]</sup>came to [anchor at] the shore.

<sup>54</sup> As soon as they got out of the boat, [the people] recognized Him,

<sup>55</sup> And they ran about the whole countryside, and began to carry around sick people on their sleeping pads *or* mats to any place where they heard that He was.

<sup>56</sup> And wherever He came into villages or cities or the country, they would lay the sick in the marketplaces and beg Him that they might touch even the fringe of His outer garment, and as many as touched Him were restored to health.

### Reflection for this week:

Imagine Jesus playing his part in rowing the boat and then mooring it. We watch as the word spreads that He has arrived. People rush about; they grab this chance to have their friends healed. Where are you in the scene? Are you helping others to reach him, or perhaps waiting for someone to bring me to Jesus? Can you let Jesus touch you?

### Prayer:

*Jesus, you loved to cure people. You taught the disciples to show compassion to the needy. We are your disciples now. May we spread your love and compassion to the needy in the Greater Norristown area this week. May we be a healing presence for those we encounter in our lives.*