

Unit 5

Peak University Study Guide  
**FAITH: HAS COMPASSION**

**Mark 6:30-44**

**Open with Praise Time:** - *“Legacy of Service”*– What are some of the ways God has given you to help others overcome their fears and learn to trust Jesus completely?

**LESSON PLAN**



denotes Apply:



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters.

**Ask:** If you were on a cruise ship and it was suddenly attacked by modern day pirates, what are the first things you would do?

**Transition:** We often worry most about ourselves first. Jesus wants to teach us a valuable lesson today. He wants us to know that God loves us with a jealous love. His love has compassion beyond imagination. Jesus literally hurts for His people, for you and me. IF we are reborn into the image of Jesus, then our faith must have His compassion.

**The Bottom Line:** All the creative power in the world belongs to Jesus and yet His heart is more tender than anyone's who has ever lived. That's impressive!

**Read Mark 6:30-34**

**Background** - *Jesus had sent the Apostles on their first missionary journey. They preached repentance and performed miracles. There was such a response that Jesus' name is becoming famous. King Herod has John the Baptist, who he probably believes started all this commotion, beheaded. The Apostles now return from their preaching tour and go back to report everything to Jesus.*

1. What do we see happening because of their ministry?
2. What does Jesus ask them to do?



When the ministry is jumping and the work is overwhelming, what does Jesus suggest? How does that apply to you and me?

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*It is not the will of Christ that we burn out and turn our families against the church. We should utilize our strongest gifts and keep a wise balance in our ministry to family, our own Spirit's, the saved and the lost. That balance is exceptionally Spirit-filled.*

3. What happens to Jesus' plans for Himself and the Apostles?
4. Why didn't Jesus tell them to go away and come back tomorrow?



What can you tell me about sheep with no one to watch over them?

5. So Jesus is moved by their need and their desire that He decides to go ahead and teach them instead of resting.

**Read Mark 6:35-44**

6. The disciples are also concerned about the people. What is their idea they give to Jesus?
7. What was Jesus' answer to the disciples' idea?
8. How did Jesus' idea sit with them?



**Interactive Teaching Ideas:** ideas for learner-focused teaching. (Break into groups for about 5 minutes then come back and share. Write the list on the board.) - What are some things Jesus has told us to do where we respond, "Jesus, do you know what that would cost?"

9. So all they have is 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. How does that proportion between 5,000 people?

*I loaf divided by 1,000 and less than 1/3 of a fish divided onto 1,000 plates. Mmmm! That is ridiculous. So what do the disciples have to say about that crazy idea? They did what they were told. They started sitting people in groups of 100 and groups of 50. They watch Jesus' lift up the bread and fish to heaven and actually thank God. Then, they just did it! They didn't argue about it, laugh at Jesus or call Him crazy. They just started handing out bread and fish. How is that like Abraham's faith? Do you think that is maybe why Jesus could work with these guys?*



What is our tendency when Jesus asks us to do what seems impossible?

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What can we learn about the compassion of the church from this event?

10. When the people ate until they could eat no more, the left-overs were picked up. The next day must have been Friday at the school cafeteria! (Joke) How much was still left?
11. What type of a miracle had just taken place before their eyes?

*The miracle of creation! Jesus was creating food before their eyes. Look at the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 17 about how God had performed this miracle before.*



What lesson do you think Jesus wanted all people for all time to get from this historical event on a seashore?



**CARING TIME: SHARE AND PRAY**

**Share the bottom line:** All the creative power in the world belongs to Jesus and yet His heart is more tender than anyone's who has ever lived. What can you do to be more sensitive to this teaching?

**Prayer:** Praise God at each table for what God will do through you.