



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Mark Sermon Series

Supports Session 4: Satisfies

Sermon Title: “The Demands of Ministry” (Mark 6:30-44)

### Connection to Session 4

As Jesus’s reputation spread, the crowds found and surrounded him. Needing a time of rest from the rigors of ministering to the people, Jesus took the disciples away from the crush of the crowd.

### Introduction/Opening

Relationships are the key to ministry. Jesus and the disciples give us a solid model of ministry. From Jesus, we learn the importance of rest, effective service, and dependence on Him to provide for our needs.

### Outline

#### 1. Rest (vv. 30-33)

- a. The apostles reported all they had experienced through their empowered ministries (v. 30).
- b. Jesus noticed their need for rest (v. 31) and called the disciples to come away to a quiet place. This would offer a time of restoration for the harried apostles and Himself. The impact of the crowd upon Jesus and the apostles was numbing: “For many people were coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat” (v. 31).
- c. Even after the disciples departed with Jesus by boat, “many saw them leaving and recognized them, and they ran on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them” (v. 33).
- d. With each miracle, the fame of Jesus spread. This notoriety created a challenge for the disciples.
- e. Today, our weekly schedules differ from what the disciples experienced, but our needs are the same. The weekly demands of work and family are wonderful but draining. There is a loss of strength similar to a drain on batteries that must be recharged.

## 2. Serving Others (vv. 34-38)

- a. As He went ashore, He saw the crowds of people who had come and had compassion on them. Jesus was merciful to the aimless crowds.
- b. Jesus began teaching them many things.
- c. After some time, the disciples realized a problem. The area did not offer markets where the people could buy food and it was growing late in the day. They suggested Jesus send the people out to the countryside and villages where food would be available for them to buy.
- d. Jesus had other plans: “You give them something to eat” (v. 37). The people needed food, so Jesus charged the disciples with the task. Surprised, they wondered how they would accomplish this sizable task.
- e. Jesus then questioned what kind of food was available in the crowd of people.
- f. In John’s account, we learn that a boy in the crowd had 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes (John 6:8-9).

## 3. Depending on Jesus (vv. 39-44)

- a. Jesus used the loaves and fishes to demonstrate His power and provision.
- b. Jesus instructed the disciples to have everyone sit in groups on the grass. Then, He blessed the food and broke it into pieces. “He kept giving them to his disciples to set before the people” (v. 41).
- c. The crowd ate and was satisfied. Afterward, twelve baskets of leftovers were collected.
- d. Jesus provided enough food for over 5,000 people to eat with just 5 loaves and 2 fishes.

## Conclusion

Jesus saw that His apostles, though empowered, were exhausted. He took them to a quiet place for rest and restoration, but the demands of ministry quickly resurfaced. Jesus, in His compassion, provided what they needed to minister to the crowd along with food for the disciples.

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