

Kingdom Rising
“Water Walking & Healing”

GETTING STARTED

ICE BREAKER: Tell about a time when you confused someone for someone else.

KEY THOUGHT: ***Don't harden to Jesus; Hurry to Jesus***

GETTING THE POINT

Read Mark 6:45-52

1. Point out examples of differentiation in these verses between Jesus and the disciples.
2. How does the phrase “pass by” point to Jesus as more than just a gifted human? (*Hint: see Exodus 33:19 and 1 Kings 19:11-12*).
3. What is significant in the phrase “It is I” = “I AM”? What does Mark want to get across here?
4. What is surprising about the disciples being “utterly astounded”? What is the connection between the loaves and their hardened hearts?

Read Mark 6:53-56

5. What contrasts do you see between the crowds here and the disciples in the previous scene?

GETTING DEEPER

Read Job 9:4-11 (*with special attention to 4, 8, and 11*)

1. What similar words and themes do you see in these verses and Mark 6:45-52?
2. How do these verses, along with Exodus 33:19 & 1 Kings 19:11-12 point to the deity of Jesus?

GETTING PERSONAL

1. Why does it matter whether Jesus was God, or a prophet empowered by God? What does it mean for us personally that God made the journey to come to us?
2. Mark uses the phrase “hardened hearts” of both the disciples and the religious leaders (for example, Mark 3:5). Looking at these examples, how does one's heart become hardened?
3. Where do you see a reluctance in yourself to run to Jesus with your needs? What can you do about this?
4. How might the privilege of proximity lead to hardening in your own heart? How can you avoid this?

PRAY...

that we will not fall into hard-hearted disbelief, but will run to Jesus with our needs.