

Mark 6.30-56

Earlier in chapter 6, Jesus had sent out his disciples to preach repentance, drive out unclean spirits, and perform healings. While they are going about, Mark had recounted the story of Herod's birthday banquet that ended up with the beheading of John the Baptist. The earlier story resumes...

³⁰ And the apostles gathered together with Jesus
and reported to him everything that they had done and taught.

³¹ Then [Jesus] says to them,

“You, come away by yourselves to a **deserted** place and rest a while.”

For many people were coming and going, and they didn't even have a chance to **eat**.

³² And they went away in the boat to a **deserted** place by themselves.

³³ And many people saw them going and **recognized** them
and ran there together on foot from all the **towns**
and got there ahead of them.

³⁴ And he got [of the boat] and saw a large crowd,
and he had compassion for them,
because they were like sheep without a shepherd,
and he began **teaching** them many things.

³⁵ And when it was already quite late,
his disciples come to him saying,

“This is a **deserted** place, and it is already quite late.

³⁶ Send them away,

in order that they might go to the surrounding **countryside** and **villages**
and buy for themselves something to **eat**.”

³⁷ But Jesus replied and said to them,

“You give them (something) to **eat**.”

And they say to him,

“Should we go and buy bread that would cost 200 denarii
—why, that's 8 month's wages!—
and give it to them to eat?”

³⁸ But he says to them,

“How many loaves of bread do you have? Go and see.”

And finding out, they say,

“Five, and two fish.”

³⁹ Then he directed them all to sit down in groups, just like at a banquet, on the green grass.

⁴⁰ And they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.

⁴¹ And he took the five loaves of bread the two fish,
and looked up to heaven,

and he **blessed** and **broke** the loaves
and began giving them to his disciples,

in order that they might set them before (the people),

and the two fish he divided among them all.

⁴² And they all **ate** and were fully satisfied.

⁴³ And they picked up of the leftover pieces, 12 big baskets full,

and that includes the fish.

⁴⁴ And the ones who **had eaten** the loaves were 5000 men.

⁴⁵ And **immediately**, he compelled his disciples to get into the boat
and go before him to the other side, towards Bethsaida,
while he was sending the crowd away.

And after saying farewell,
he went away to the mountain to pray.

And when it became evening,
the boat was in the middle of the sea,
and he was alone on the land.

And when he saw them struggling as they were rowing
—for the wind was against them—
about when night was ending,
he comes towards them walking on the sea, ...
and he was intending to pass by them.

But when they saw him walking on the sea,
they thought he was a ghostly phantom, and they screamed out!
For they all saw him and were terrified.

But **immediately** he spoke with them and says to them,
“Be brave! I am [Jesus]. Don’t be afraid.”

And he climbed into the boat with them,
and the wind ceased.

And they were beside themselves, utterly bewildered,
for they didn’t understand about the loaves,
instead, they were kept from having a change of heart.

⁵³ And when they had crossed over,
they came to land at Gennesaret and anchored in the harbor.

⁵⁴ And when they got out of the boat, **immediately**,
when [the people] **recognized** [Jesus],

⁵⁵ they ran around through that whole region
and began carrying around on mats those who were sick
to wherever they were hearing that he was.

⁵⁶ And wherever he was going—into **villages** or **towns** or the **countryside**, in the market places—
they were laying [before him] those who were ill
and asking him that they might touch [him],
even if it were only the fringe of his cloak.

And as many as touched him were being healed.