

## Wednesday

**Read:** Mark 6:35-36 *The disciples want the crowd to go.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why did the disciples want everyone to leave?*
2. *Is it difficult sometimes to give when you are tired?*

**Prayer Focus:** Jesus, I know you, too, must have been tired and hungry that day. Yet you chose to act out of compassion first. Thank you for all the ways you provide for my needs, every day. Help me to see where my compassion can help restore and heal your world.

## Thursday

**Read:** Mark 6:37-40 *Jesus organizes the meal.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why does Jesus ask them to feed the people?*
2. *When God asks something of you, do you sometimes think you don't have enough to make a difference?*

**Prayer Focus:** Gracious God, everything we have comes from you. Help us to move past our human belief that there is not enough, because you always provide. Let us remember that through you, even the small things we have to give are worthy to do your work.

## Friday

**Read:** Mark 6:41-44 *Everyone is fed.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Do you believe what happened was a miracle? Why or why not?*
2. *What do you think people thought when they saw all those leftovers?*

**Prayer Focus:** God of all hope, you bring us fresh miracles every day. You bring us fresh challenges every day. Let us be the ones who dare to put our few bits of bread and fish into the basket, believing they are enough in your hands. We leave it to you to bless and multiply it all. Let us rejoice in the leftovers as well as the meal!

## Compassion

*“Compassion is the heartbeat of humanity. We are most fully human, most fully ourselves, when we see someone in the truth of his or her experience and are moved to respond with kindness and care.” Frank Rogers, Jr., Practicing Compassion*

Come away to a deserted place; Jesus had compassion for the crowd for they were like sheep without a shepherd.

### Message Notes:

## Small Group Format

### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Do you have a favorite food that you wish everyone else could experience and love?*

### Opening Prayer

### Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

- Have someone read **Mark 6:30-44** Discuss observations about the text.
  - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
  - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

*Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)*

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

### Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

### Pray for each other

### Refreshments (optional)

**July 7, 2019**  
**Compassion as a Way of Life**



## Monday

**Read: Mark 6:30-32** *Jesus invites the disciples to rest.*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *The disciples had just arrived from their travels. How do you think they felt when Jesus saw how tired they were?*
2. *How do you find rest in Jesus? Is it easy to stop and just be with him?*

**Prayer Focus:**

Redeemer, thank you for really seeing us and knowing what we need. Thank you for your compassion, always. Thank you for times of peaceful rest with you.

## Tuesday

**Read: Mark 6:33-34** *The people find Jesus before he can rest.*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *Why were so many people willing to run after Jesus?*
2. *What can happen to sheep if there is no shepherd?*

**Prayer Focus:**

Blessed Jesus, you are the shepherd who looks out for every sheep in your care. Be with us to guide us in the way of your lovingkindness, as we receive it from you and as we offer it to others.