

## Standing Strong in a Shaken World: God's Power

Mark 6:31-46

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Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lovelady

**Mark 6:31-46** <sup>31</sup> Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." <sup>32</sup> So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. <sup>33</sup> But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. <sup>35</sup> By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." <sup>37</sup> But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" <sup>38</sup> "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five-- and two fish." <sup>39</sup> Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. <sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, <sup>43</sup> and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. <sup>44</sup> The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand. <sup>45</sup> Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church and Community.

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of experiencing God's power

Time \_\_\_\_\_: For there was constant coming and going. They didn't even have time to eat. Mark 6:31 (MSG)

\_\_\_\_\_ needs: The crowd saw that they had left in the boat and followed them...when Jesus saw the large crowd, he was moved with compassion for they were like lost sheep... Mark 6:33-34 (JOT)

### 2. Finding God's \_\_\_\_\_ to stand strong

\_\_\_\_\_ shift: The disciples said, "These people are tired and hungry. Get rid of them and let someone else worry about them." Jesus said, "These people are tired and hungry. We must do something about it." Mark 6:35, 37 (BDSBT)

Examine \_\_\_\_\_: Jesus said, "You do it. Fix supper for them." They replied, "Are you serious? You want us to go spend a fortune on food for their supper?" But he was quite serious. "How many loaves of bread do you have? Take an inventory." That didn't take long. "Five," they said, "plus two fish." Mark 6:37-38 (MSG)

\_\_\_\_\_ offer: And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And they all ate and were satisfied. Mark 6:41-42 (RSV)

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ to God's power

Sacrificial \_\_\_\_\_: Through Jesus, let us offer a sacrifice of praise in every circumstance to God. When we confess that Jesus is Lord, in joy and sorrow, then our lips and lives become offerings that pleases God! Hebrews 13:15 (JOT)

#### Spiritual Action Step:

Where do you feel overwhelmed? God wants to help you see his power at work in your life. Jesus told his disciples: "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." (Mark 6:31) Refocus your life through spending this time with God each day. When you respond to God's invitation to find rest in Jesus then you will notice an increase in the peace, joy, love, and faith in your heart. This week, read Isaiah 40 and John 10 to allow the Good Shepherd to lead you home.

Translations: NIV: New International Version; MSG: The Message; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; BDST: Barclay's Bible Study Translation; RSV: Revised Standard Version.