

PERSONAL GOD

Mark 6:30 (NIV) *The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.* ³¹ *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."*

³² *So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.* ³³ *But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.* ³⁴ *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.*

³⁵ *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.* ³⁶ *Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."*

³⁷ *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?"* ³⁸ *"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."*

³⁹ *Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass.* ⁴⁰ *So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.* ⁴¹ *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.* ⁴² *They all ate and were satisfied,* ⁴³ *and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish.* ⁴⁴ *The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.*

Mark 6:45 (NIV) *Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.* ⁴⁶ *After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.*

⁴⁷ Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵² for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

Mark 7:5 (NIV) "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"

Mark 7:21 (NIV) For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

Mark 7:8 (NIV) You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.

Mark 7:34 (NIV) He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). ³⁵ At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.