

Do you have recent reports of what God is doing in your life, what you are learning in your personal Bible studies, who you are praying for, what ministry you are planning for, what you are doing to be more effective in this current season, what next spiritual objective you have in mind, what ideas you are considering for your ministry, what you have been sharing, what you are planning to share next?

If I can sum it up in one word:

**Do you have spiritual goals? If you are walking by faith today, you will be developing spiritual spiritual goals.**

This is an encouragement to us to focus our attention on things that matter so that like the apostles we can share what God is doing through us and what God is sharing through us.

**(Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.)**

Are you distracted by worldly things? Are you prioritizing things that will only distract you from what is best? Don't be distracted by worldly things. Keep your focus on the spiritual things. Keep your focus on Christ and His will. God's plan is to rescue more sinners with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Renew your commitment to follow Jesus and His mission.**

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## **Part 2: Verses 32-34: The Heart of a Shepherd**

*(Mark 6:32 So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves.*

*Mark 6:33 But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him.*

*Mark 6:34 And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.)*

In these verses, you and I learn a characteristic of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus as a shepherd.

On this day, the apostles of Christ saw the greatest example, the Chief Shepherd. They learned what truly characterizes a good shepherd. It's in one word: **LOVE**.

To understand the shepherd's love more clearly, let's look at verse 31 to understand the background of the situation:

*(Mark 6:31 And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.*

*Mark 6:32 So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves.)*

The Lord Jesus saw that the apostles needed rest and food. Interestingly, it is not told to us that the apostles complained. I find that verse 7 and verse 30 reveal to us why: They were empowered with supernatural power for the short-term mission trip they just finished. Now, the Lord knew the physical needs of His apostles, even more so than the apostles themselves. So this is why they left the crowds by boat to a deserted place. The Lord was taking care of his apostles, both spiritually and physically.

It seems that the crowd in verse 31 only grew by verse 33. And in just a moment, it will be clear to us the thousands of people that were present in this "deserted place."

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## **Jesus Fulfilling His Role as Shepherd**

### **(1). "Moved with Compassion"**

This phrase is one of my favorite phrases to describe the character of our Savior. He is "moved with compassion." He loves each one of us with an everlasting love. And He loves each one of us with incomprehensible, eternal compassion. In contrast, you and I have limited compassion. But imagine Jesus, God-in-the-flesh, who is full of limitless, eternal compassion.

When I see phrases like this, I want to worship. If you recall, this phrase was first introduced in Mark 1:41, where Jesus was moved with compassion for the leper who asked Jesus to heal him:

(Mark 1:41 *Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."*)

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## (2). "Sheep without a Shepherd"

Now, he is "moved with compassion" for the crowds. Why? Because "they were like sheep without a shepherd."

Don't you find it very helpful and revelatory to know that of all the animals God likens us to, we are likened to sheep. And so by getting a closer look at sheep, you can then understand how incredibly comforting it is to know that you have a spiritual and physical shepherd.

### Sheep Need A Shepherd For:<sup>1</sup>

#### (1). Daily Provisions

- Did you know that sheep need to eat daily to stay healthy? Other animals can go without eating for extended periods of time. Starved sheep are unhealthy sheep. **Therefore, sheep need a shepherd to feed them daily.**
  - The same is true spiritually: The more you follow the heavenly shepherd, the more you realize that you need to be feeding on God's word, the "spiritual food" daily.

#### (2). Protection

- Did you know that sheep are one of the few animals that have no defenses? Other animals are predators. Sheep are no match against other animals. **Therefore, sheep need a shepherd to protect them.**
  - The same is true spiritually: The more you follow the heavenly shepherd, the more you realize that you are only spiritually, mentally, and physically safe in Jesus. Think of all the lies believed before your conversion. And think of all the lies God is still renewing in you? You are no match for Satan and people under Satan's control. You are truly vulnerable without Christ. But in Christ, you are secure.

#### (3). Direction

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<sup>1</sup> I liked the 3 divisions [that this writer considered](#). There's [Keller's book of course](#) that goes into all the details that will blow anyone's mind. But to sum it up in 3 major points is just BLISS.

- Sheep are very social. They will follow the flock no matter where it takes them. This is dangerous, isn't it? **Therefore, sheep need a shepherd to lead them to the right path, safety, and still waters to not drown.**<sup>2</sup>
  - The same is true spiritually: The more you follow the heavenly shepherd, the more you realize that we have an innate tendency to imitate and follow others, follow what others think, and what others say. And there are times we wander together in the wrong direction and wander personally in the wrong direction. But because Jesus Christ is your heavenly shepherd, he continues to rear you and rear all of us on the right path.

Jesus saw these thousands of people as spiritual sheep without a shepherd. All of us here were just like these people before our conversion. Yet, know this. Now that you are God's sheep, you are in constant, desperate need of your heavenly shepherd, Jesus.

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### (3). "So He Began to Teach them Many Things"

In response to the sight of people without a spiritual shepherd, what did Jesus do? He began to **teach**. Jesus established a major principle of good spiritual shepherding. Here's an insight that you never want to forget:

"A true spiritual shepherd feeds God's sheep by teaching God's sheep."

Some of you came from different church backgrounds. And before you came to this church, you had a skewed view of pastors: that pastors were motivational speakers; that pastors were great speakers and orators who sprinkled God into their "talks." As a result, some of you came to this church and thought and said:

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<sup>2</sup> **Directionless** (Sheep are one of the few animals that are not independent. They are entirely dependent upon a shepherd).

**Susceptible** to wolves and predators (Unprotected).

**Without care** (One thing about sheep is that their wool needs to be sheared otherwise they'll die: for the wool becomes too much to carry. It needs to be shaved).

**Discipline** (Sheep tend to wander and hurt themselves. So the shepherd disciplines sheep so that they no longer wander).

**Anxious/Restless** (Sheep will not have absolutely any type of rest unless they have a shepherd).

- (1). Well, that preacher was different. The pastor did not give a motivational speech, he taught the Bible. In certain parts of the message, I felt like I was in school again. How many of you relate to that?
- (2). Well, that preacher was different. By the end of the service, I did not see a “speaker” talking giving his thoughts and opinions, but I felt like God was speaking? How many of you relate to that?
- (3). How many of you visited relatives out of state and joined them to the church that they attend? At the end of service, on the way home, you felt so sorry, maybe even cried, for those people who endure bad shepherding. You are burdened that they have not yet tasted what you’ve tasted: good, bible-teaching. How many of you relate to that?

I tried to sum up some of the testimonies of 3 different types of people who have come to our church over the years telling us these things.

This is why, when your family members, friends, acquaintances ask you, “Where should I go to church,” it’s an act of love to do your research to find a good, bible-teaching church where there are good shepherds who are feeding people with God’s holy word.

Now, I’m not saying we at New Beginnings WC are the best preachers, teachers, or pastors. Remember, that the leaders in the church are sheep too. We share the same pastor, Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Good and Chief Shepherd. But I can tell you this: Because God has given me the gift of teaching, pastoring, and leadership, because He has called me to be a pastor, **it is my duty to follow the example of Jesus Christ that my primary duty is to teach the Bible.**

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## Verses 35-39: Unaware of the Miraculous

*(Mark 6:35 When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late.*

**Mark 6:36** *Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat.”*

**Mark 6:37** *But He answered and said to them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?”*

**Mark 6:38** *But He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they found out they said, "Five, and two fish."*

**Mark 6:39** *Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass.)*

The disciples only thought and operated in the natural world with a natural perspective. They were unaware of what God could do. They were ignorant of God's limitless compassion and power.

Ignorant of God's resources, God's power, and God's plan.

What the disciples will soon realize is that God is eternal; that God's plan supersedes natural obstacles; that the natural world and natural obstacles submit to the Creator who alone has authority over the physical realm.

"Alright, let's stop already. The people are hungry and were stuck out here in the middle of the desert. They can come back tomorrow to be taught God's word after they eat and get some rest." Again, the disciples only said and did what was naturally expected from anyone.

But the scriptures show us that what is natural is of no importance or hindrance to the will of God. And what is natural can become a hindrance to what God wants to do. The disciples learn that God operates in the ordinary. But the disciples will also learn that the Lord also reveals His glory in the extraordinary.

**A personal question:** How many of you only look at things in the natural and the ordinary? As you continue to follow Jesus, you will learn that God can do the impossible and loves to do the impossible. That there are times, where the natural is an obstacle to the supernatural thing that God wants to accomplish.

And at times in our lives, even if you have been a Christian for a long time, we are just like the apostles. You and I think that things happen a certain way because they've always occurred in that way. You and I think that there's only one course of action or consequence because that is what is natural and logical. But God reveals to His people that in our journey with Jesus, we are learning "to walk by faith and not by sight." Look at the mighty miracle in the following verses:

## Verses 40-44: The Miracle

**(Mark 6:40** *So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties.*

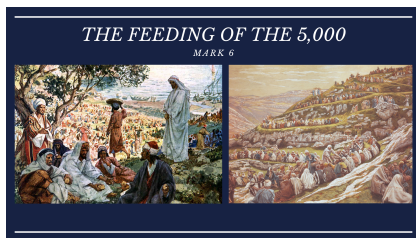
**Mark 6:41** *And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all.*

**Mark 6:42** *So they all ate and were filled.*

**Mark 6:43** *And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish.*

**Mark 6:44** *Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men.)*

(Graphic 1)



What an amazing miracle! The compassion of God on display. The authority of God on display. The power of God on display!

### Verse 44: The Massive Number

Matthew 14 records the same event. Matthew 14:21 gives us more insight to what we read in verse 44. Mark says 5,000 men. That is true. But Matthew makes it crystal clear that this did not include women and children. So how many people were actually there? 10,000, 15,000, 20,000, 25,000? Not totally clearly, all we know was that it was massive. 5 loaves and 2 fish to feed this many people?

### Verse 41: Jesus Prays

Jesus prays and blesses the food before it is distributed. I enjoy just imagining that moment.

### Lessons for God's People

Again, to repeat this, Christ's miracle first originated in His compassion for these shepherdless sheep.

### **Personal Questions:**

Are you limiting God this morning with what He can do?

Are you like the disciples who have no idea what God could do with 5 loaves and 2 fish?

Do you realize that a natural obstacle in our eyes is not an obstacle for the Lord?

### Unknown to the Masses:

We get no inkling or indication that the masses of people knew about the miracle.

- **The only truth that we have is that the disciples saw the miracle and were supposed to learn a valuable lesson from the miracle.**

Now, to understand the full lesson that Christ wanted to teach His disciples requires that we keep reading:

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### **Verses 45-52: Jesus Walks on Water**

*(Mark 6:45 Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away.*

**Mark 6:46** *And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray.*

**Mark 6:47** *Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land.*

**Mark 6:48** *Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by.*

**Mark 6:49** *And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out;*

**Mark 6:50** *for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."*

**Mark 6:51** *Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.*

**Mark 6:52** *For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.)*

**Why did Jesus go to pray? Why did He send His disciples to go on the boat?** Recall that verse 31 tells us that Jesus wanted the apostles to have a time of rest. To nourish themselves physically and spiritually.

When they attempted this, they weren't able to because the 5,000+ people were waiting on the other side. And so, the Lord commands them in verse 45 to get on the boat to go to the other side to finally rest. Funny thing is, they don't actually get to rest, again!



## **The Necessity of Prayer**

Jesus saw His need to pray as supremely important. This was supremely important to the ministry of Christ. It is clear from the text that Jesus was intentional to go alone and pray. For us, in our busy seasons of life, it will require intentional effort to go alone and pray. Sometimes, there are people and things that unknowingly try to push you in this direction or pull you in that direction, but learn from Jesus that,

**PRAYER MUST ALWAYS REMAIN THE PRIORITY.**

## **Why Does this Story Seem Awfully Familiar?**

Well, it is because this is the account where the Apostle Peter walks on water. Only Matthew records in Matthew 14 the story of Peter walking on the water. Both John and Mark do not record Peter walking on the water.

- And so we should rightfully ask, why does Mark and John leave out such a momentous miracle, “Peter walking on water”?
- The truth is: there are numerous accounts in the gospels where some writers add, leave out, and/or include details. Why? Because the Holy Spirit uses each writer to highlight particular truths. So, in this account, what does Mark uniquely highlight that other writers don’t highlight? Hang on, we’ll get to that in just a moment.

### Verse 48: Jesus Sees

(1). It’s worth pointing out that while Jesus is on the mountain praying, He sees another windstorm take the disciples by surprise. It says that he is watching this happen.

(2). It’s worth pointing out that Jesus was able to see this as if he was there.

### Verse 48b: Jesus Walks on the Water

(1). Garland: “The wind posed no obstacle for Jesus; and the waves provided firm footing as he walked across the sea.”

(2). Mark is sure to point out that it seemed like Jesus was going to walk right past them.

### Verse 50: One Word

Once they heard the voice of the Lord Jesus, they were no longer afraid. They were no longer troubled. For when He spoke, and when he came into the boat, the windstorm stopped, the sea was calmed. I think of that new song that just came out, “Authority,” by Brooke Ligertwood.

Chorus  
 C F  
 One word from You  
 C/E F  
 Things change on Your authority  
 C F  
 Your word it's true  
 C/E F C  
 Things change on Your authority

### What does Jesus tell them?

- (1). Have courage (CSB); Take Heart (ESV).
- (2). It is I.
- (3). Do not be afraid.

### Verse 51: Greatly Amazed

Something happened that night in the heart of the disciples.. Mark uses this word, beyond measure, to describe their amazement. It's indescribable. It's superior to anything else. In the Greek, it's actually one word: (περισσός pēriśōs). Where else do we see perissos?

(Graphic 2)

<p><b>BEYOND MEASURE</b>  <small>ΠΕΡΙΣΣΟΣ PĒRISSŌS</small></p> <p><u>Mark 6:51</u> Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves <b>beyond measure (περισσός pēriśōs)</b>, and marveled.</p> <p><u>John 10:10b-11a</u>: I came that they may have life and have it <b>abundantly (περισσός pēriśōs)</b>. I am the good shepherd.</p>	<p><b>EN GRAN MANERA</b>  <small>ΠΕΡΙΣΣΟΣ PĒRISSŌS</small></p> <p><u>Marcos 6:51</u> Y subió a ellos en la barca, y se calmó el viento; y ellos se asombraron <b>en gran manera (περισσός pēriśōs)</b>, y se maravillaban.</p> <p><u>Juan 10:10b-11a</u>: Y para que la tengan en <b>abundancia (περισσός pēriśōs)</b>. Yo soy el buen pastor.</p>
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Their great amazement beyond measure is the same word that Jesus Christ used to describe the abundant life that Jesus came to give us; the abundant life that the blood of Christ purchased for you and I, forever.

If someone asked you,

“I’m reading John 10:10. I have a question: “What is the abundant life?” There is more than 1 way to answer that question. And one powerful way to explain the abundant life is by going to Mark 6:51:

**The abundant life that Jesus Christ makes available to each believer is that incomparable, unspeakable, superior, beyond measure amazement of who Jesus Christ is and what He does!**

God is so gracious and good to us to do amazing miracles in our lives, amazing miracles that you and I don’t deserve. And there are times in trials such as the great windstorm-trial of the disciples, that we have no clue how we’re going to move forward and survive it.

**But God shows up because He loves us. And as He does these unexpected miracles in our lives, all we can do is bow in awe of His goodness. All we can experience is the abundant life Jesus promised us.**

So a good question I have for you is this: When was the last time you were **beyond measure greatly amazed** at the person of Jesus Christ and what Jesus does? Has your wonder decreased in recent days? Has your awe of Christ been pushed out by other things?

Part of the abundant life is that continuous, flowing experiential awe of Him.

Remember, the abundant life will be fully manifested and experienced when we go to glory in heaven forever. But while we are here on earth, as much as it is available to us, there are multiple times and reasons why we are not experiencing the abundant life.

**You know, there are times where our amazement of Christ (an aspect of the abundant life) will decrease for several reasons:**

- (1). Lack of reading God’s word, to know and learn Christ.
- (2). Lack of prayer, to spend quality time in conversation the Father.
- (3). Disobedience, directly avoiding Christ’s fellowship and Christ’s gaze.
- (4). Fear, moments in which we fail to exercise faith.
- (5). Trials, events in which we fail to look to Jesus.

It was important to share these 5 with you. But the one in context here, the one that is highlighted by Mark, is **a hardened heart**.

### Verse 52: Hardened Hearts

What does Mark uniquely point out that the other gospel writers do not point out? Let me read verses 51-52 once more but in the CSB version so that you can understand a little better the issue:

CSB: (**Mark 6:51** *Then he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. They were completely astounded [greatly amazed by beyond measure and marveled],* **Mark 6:52** *because they had not understood about the loaves. Instead, their hearts were hardened.*)

The disciples were beyond measure greatly amazed at this miracle but not at the miracle of the 5 loaves and 2 fish, the feeding of the 5,000. (REPEAT) But let me share with you,

### **God's Grace**

Later, in Mark 8 Jesus will give them a second opportunity to be greatly amazed beyond measure by feeding 4,000 people with seven loaves. There is another great faith lesson when we get to chapter 8, which I won't share now. The point is:

**God is so gracious to give them a second chance.** There was a faith lesson with the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 that the apostles did not learn. There was something in the abundant life of Christ that they still could not grab hold of. And so the Lord will give them a second chance in chapter 8.

### **What primary faith lesson is here for us? Hardened Hearts.**

Christ intended the miracle to produce a faith lesson, an abundant life experience in the apostles. However, the miracle did not have the intended impact. Why? It tells us in verse 52 that their hearts were hardened. What does it mean that they had hardened hearts? Let us meditate on this.

What makes the miracle of walking on water different from the feeding of the 5,000? Both miracles were **INCREDIBLE**. The simple difference was this: If you put yourself in the shoes of the apostles, the miracle of multiplying bread

and fish was for the benefit of others, Jesus being a good shepherd. But the miracle of Jesus walking on the water and the calming of the sea was for the survival of His 12 apostles. With establishing the difference, let me share with you two personal testimonies to understand the difference:

**Personal Example & Comparison:**

I remember years ago, We were on a mission trip. On our mission trips, the night before we leave back home, we like to have a worship and testimony night. This time, the worship and testimony night went well into the night. Already pretty late, there was an individual who was physically injured. And this person was literally healed after we prayed. It was unforgettable. The person was crying, rejoicing, praising God, confessing sins, and just glorifying the Lord. And I, who saw the healing, who saw the person's response, had a hardened heart. Instead of being in awe of Jesus accomplishing this great miracle for this person, I found myself just like the disciples - with a hardened heart. I just sat back and literally thought to myself: "I'm hungry. It's late. I want to go to sleep. This guy who got healed can't stop talking. I'd rather just jump in the shower. Maybe I should leave, take a nap, and come back."

But then, I remember I found myself years later in a terrifying situation. I shared the gospel with a young man on his porch in his house because he welcomed me to do so. He was very interested in the gospel. He was asking all these questions. Since I was on his porch, I'd glance upon a few times, noticing another figure, a young man, behind the screen door, sitting on the sofa listening to me preach and converse. After some time, the individual behind the screen door started to yell at the guy I was sharing the gospel with, telling him to tell me to leave. So I respected the situation, didn't want problems, and we walked out and shook hands. He told me he'd like to talk more about Jesus one day. I left him my number. Months later, some friends and I were hanging out at a burger spot. That guy behind the screen door happened to randomly be walking there. He remembered me. He pulled out a knife, clearly stating, "I'm going to murder you right now." Because of some obstruction, a friend of mine was in the way. So to get to me, the guy lifted up his knife to stab my friend in the neck to get him out of the way to get to me. Right before the knife went into the neck of my friend, the guy's whole arms flung back. He turned around to see who man-handled him and he could find no one. Then, something forced him to run another direction and throw the knife to the ground. And he stood there unable to move until all of us ran far from the scene. That night, an angel stopped the man from stabbing my friend, myself, and maybe others that night. Who knows if my friend or myself would be here had it not been for that angel that night. I was greatly amazed beyond measure that Jesus Christ accomplished that miracle for me. I couldn't stop sharing with people about that miracle years ago. I loved sharing it.

Just like the apostles,

(1). We can have hardened hearts to certain miracles of God because they aren't benefiting us, they're miracles in other people's lives.

(2). We can have hardened hearts to the lessons Christ wants to teach us because they are miracles for others. Christ intended to strengthen and increase the faith of the apostles through the feeding of the 5,000 so that their faith might have been stronger in the great windstorm.

Sadly, we can be so hardened to what God is doing that we think He is unaware of us, that He does not care for us, that He has abandoned us. He allows us to see miracles in the lives of others; He allows us to hear and know what He can do. But for many sorrowful reasons, we close our hearts, we harden our hearts to work he wants to do in our hearts.

A.W. Tozer: You're as near as you can get as far as distance is concerned, but He can't manifest Himself because there's a dissimilarity of nature. You'll have enough of His nature that you're justified and regenerated, but you haven't enough to perfect the fellowship. Do you see what I mean? The perfection of the fellowship. Oh, brethren, this is what we need so desperately bad.<sup>3</sup>

Sometimes, we feel distant from God. Maybe you feel distant from God today. And honestly, we all feel distant from God at times because we aren't experiencing the abundant life that Christ has made fully and readily available to us (John 10:10)

First, understand that Jesus Christ lives in you (Colossians 1:27). So if Christ lives in you, and if God is eternal, omnipresent, with constant love and favor upon His children, then if you feel distant from God, **who moved?** Clearly not the Lord. **You and I move away from the beyond measure, great amazement, abundant life in Christ.** In essence, the state of our heart is the real issue.

Some of you might be thinking right now, "Wait, I can have as much of God as I want?" Yes.. But also understand that because God is good and gracious, he lets you taste that abundant life. Every Christian tastes the abundant life here on earth. But understand this Biblical truth:

**It's up to you how much and how often you will taste the abundant life in Christ.**

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<sup>3</sup> Taken from [this](#).

He wanted the disciples to drink of the abundant life in the miracle with the 5,000, but they did not. But they finally did at the miracle on the sea. And God in His grace lets us drink in times of great trial and difficulty. And I love God's grace on this matter: Again, Mark 8 will reveal that Christ gave them a second chance to experience the great amazement at the feeding of the 4,000. And so again, the grace of Christ is highlighted.

I think of that one old Calvary Chapel Downey song, Closer:

A call to be closer  
Than I've ever been before  
You're relentlessly wanting  
To commune with me some more

You may ask this wonderful, concluding question: "How do I experience more of the abundant life that Christ promised me?"

The Biblical command is simple:

Soften your hearts in repentance before the Lord. For when your heart is tender before the Father, you will begin to see all that the Father is doing around you, all that the Father is doing in others, all that Father is doing for you, his child.

When you are humble and repentant (a soft heart), you will be in continual, great amazement of who Jesus is and what He is doing.

Start your day with a heart of repentance and worship, and your day will be filled with Christ, with His Presence, with His power, with His signs, with His wonders. If your heart is in the right place, you can experience Psalm 34:8 as much as you want, as much as your heart can contain:

*(Psalm 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good...)*

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## **Verses 53-56: The Abundant Life for All**

*(Mark 6:53 When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret and anchored there.*

**Mark 6:54** *And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him,*

**Mark 6:55** *ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was.*

**Mark 6:56** *Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.)*

The apostles were learning that people were in desperate need for a shepherd and for a Savior. That Jesus Christ was the only who can satisfy their hunger and thirst. They were learning that Jesus Christ came to give abundant life to all.

If you are here today, in desperate need of a Shepherd and Savior, today is the day to believe in Jesus Christ.

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