

Small Group Study Notes

Mark 6:31-44

1. The need to feed this crowd was an outworking of Jesus' desire to set up a time and place for a rest. How seriously do we take the need for rest? In church life? Work life? Home life? Why is there often a reluctance to rest?
2. It was "compassion" (v34) that caused Jesus to get involved with this particular crowd. In what ways does our church express compassion?
3. Jesus became a shepherd to this crowd (v34). David described God as a shepherd in Psalm 23. Using Ps 23 what is the key characteristic of the good shepherd?
4. What did Herod offer his guests at his banquet (6:14-30) and what does Jesus offer his guests at his banquet? Which banquet would you have preferred to have attended and why?
5. Jesus tells his disciples to care for the food needs of this enormous crowd. Why does Jesus give them a task beyond their capability?
6. Why are we told of the amount of food left over?
7. What is God laying on you right now that is beyond your capability?