



July 18, 2021 Mk. 6: 30-34, 53-56. Jer. 23:1-6  
<http://www.theark1.com> Zoom Connection  
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### ENTERING THE SCENE:

The world's needs are so great, and the time and energy of those who respond to Jesus' call to minister to all those needs is never enough. Jesus is very aware that time off is essential if the disciples are not to fall prey to thinking they are the solution instead of being PART of the solution. This is what he himself does and he models this healthy ministry to those who he calls to help him with the Father's work. As you try to follow Jesus, do you also go off to a "solitary place" in order to renew yourself and keep in perspective your role in salvation history?

### Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**30** 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.

**53** When they had **crossed** over, they landed at **Gennesaret** and **anchored** there. **54** As soon as they got out of the **boat**, people **recognized** Jesus. **55** They **ran** throughout that **whole region** and carried the **sick** on **mats** to wherever they heard he was. **56** And wherever he went--into villages, towns or countryside--they placed the **sick** in the **marketplaces**. They **begged** him to let them **touch** even the **edge** of his cloak, and all who **touch**ed him were **healed**.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Jesus takes his exhausted disciples off to rest and reflect on what has happened with and to them. How do you do the same?

**PRAYER:** Jesus, you knew the danger of not taking time off. Echoes of the temptations in the desert to think you were where the "buck stops" looms whenever you didn't get off to pray, reflect and renew yourself. In my hectic lifetoo often I forget this need to be alone with the Father and with those who can help me process what is going on.

Give me the wisdom to know that the Father is in charge, and I am only expected to be faithful not successful. Amen.