

Date: August 30, 2026
Series: The Gospel According to Mark
Title: "The Compassion of Christ"
Text: Mark 6:30-44



I. Jesus Meaningfully Cares for His Own (Mark 6:30–32)

"Jesus asks for what we can do and not for what we cannot do." J.C. Ryle

II. Jesus Welcomes Interruption with Compassion (Mark 6:33–34)

Additional Scriptures: Hebrews 4:15

III. Jesus Abundantly Satisfies What His Followers Cannot (Mark 6:35–44)

A. Jesus Knows that the Problem Is Real

B. Jesus Turns the Problem Back on His Followers

Additional Scripture: Mark 14:22

*"The disciples complained about what they lacked;
Jesus focused on what they possessed." James Edwards*

*"Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the world,
who brings forth bread from the earth."
Traditional Jewish prayer before meal*

C. Jesus Provides, and Everyone Is Satisfied

Additional Scripture: Psalm 34:8; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2 Corinthians 4:7

D. What's Left Over Is an Invitation

Additional Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-3

Questions to Consider & Discuss:

1. **Rest (vv. 30–32):** Jesus tells his exhausted disciples to rest before he gives them anything else to do. What convinces you, even subtly, that rest has to be earned? What would it look like to receive it instead?
2. **Interruption (v. 33):** The crowd seems to disrupt Jesus' plans, and he responds with compassion instead of irritation. Think of the last time your rest or plans got interrupted by someone else's need — how did you respond, and what does that reveal?
3. **Compassion (v. 34):** Jesus sees the crowd as "sheep without a shepherd" rather than an inconvenience. Who in your life right now is easy to see as a burden but hard to see as someone who needs a shepherd?
4. **The disciples' plan (vv. 35–37):** "Send them away" was a reasonable idea — but Jesus says "you give them something to eat." Where are you currently handing a need off to someone else that Jesus may be asking you to be part of the solution?
5. **The loaves and fish (vv. 38–44):** Jesus took a kid's lunch and fed thousands, with twelve baskets left over. What's the "five loaves and two fish" in your life — the thing you assume is too small to offer — and what would it look like to actually hand it over this week?
6. **Satisfied (v. 42):** The crowd was fed, but the sermon points past that to a deeper hunger only Jesus satisfies. What are you currently looking to for satisfaction that isn't him, and what's one concrete step toward "tasting and seeing" this week instead?