



Sheep Without A Shepherd Mark 6:30-44

September 8, 2019
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Good morning church! Last week, we saw a “Cross-cutting” scene of King Herod and his family living in sin and not repenting over the killing of John the Baptist. Now this is happening simultaneously as Jesus’ disciples are casting out demons and sharing the gospel. NOTICE: even an unbeliever does not escape the conviction of unrepentant sin. Herod lived in regret, remorse, fear & guilt because of his sin and ultimately had faced judgment from God. As we move from that scene, we switch back to Mark’s account of Jesus with his disciples in verse 30. John’s death foreshadows the suffering that comes to God’s messengers. What happens to John will happen to Jesus in his mission and to the disciples in theirs. Let us be a student of scripture today as we read a text and passage that we already know or be familiar with.

Mark 6:30-44

“The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. ³⁵ And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶ Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷ But he answered 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 it to them to eat?” ³⁸ And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”³⁹ Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³ And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴ And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.”

1. Investing in Sabbath REST and PRIVACY is Crucial to a Healthy MINISTRY. (v 30-32)

- Being ALONE with Jesus is part of PREPARATION for future ministry.
- Consider the PACE of Ministry is a MARATHON not a Sprint.

2. Participating in RELENTLESS PURSUIT of Jesus enables us to be RESTORED in the PERSON of Jesus. (v. 33-40)

Jesus does what God promised to do in **Ezekiel 34:11**,
“I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out... I will feed them with good pasture.”

Numbers 27:15-17

“spoke to the LORD, saying, ¹⁶ “Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation ¹⁷ who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the LORD may not be as sheep that have no shepherd.”

Psalm 78:70-72

“He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; ⁷¹ from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. ⁷² With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.”

Psalm 23:1

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want”;

Psalm 80:1

“Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth”

Ezekiel 34:15

“I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God.”

John 10:14-16

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

- Jesus acts as the SHEPHERD of God's people.

3. Only Jesus Can SATISFY all our NEEDS. (v 41-44)

- Trusting God CAN provide for us reveals belief.
- Trusting God WILL provide for us reveals faith.
- Jesus gives ABUNDANTLY in proportion to His good, pleasing and perfect will.
- Do not Worship the god of your STOMACH trading your HEART for a meal.