

Week Five: Mark 6

"Jesus Will Walk on Water If That's What It Takes"

Reading and Study Guide for the week of May 14-21, 2023

**Memory Verse for the Gospel of Mark:** Jesus called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34)

This week, read Mark 6. On Sunday, May 28, Pastor John will preach on the theme, "Jesus Will Walk on Water If That's What It Takes" (Mark 6:45-56). Separated by chaotic elements, Jesus actually walked on water to reach the fearful in the boat and the needy on the shore. There is nothing so powerful that can hinder Jesus from meeting us in our greatest needs.

## Some questions to answer and think about this week with your family or Community Group

- 1. When did Jesus make His disciples go on ahead of Him? (6:45)
- 2. How did Jesus and the disciples get separated? (6:45-47)
- 3. What did Jesus do while He was alone? (6:46)
- **4.** What problem were the disciples having? How did Jesus respond to the disciples' needs? (6:48)
- 5. What is one lesson you had to learn the hard way?
- **6.** When did the disciples cry out? Why? (6:49-50)
- 7. Why were the disciples "completely amazed"? (6:51)
- 8. What had the disciples failed to understand? (6:52)
- 9. What did Jesus do after He and the disciples had crossed over the lake? (6:54-56)
- 10. How did the crowds respond to Jesus when He came to their villages? (6:56)
- 11. What difference did it make that the crowds welcomed Jesus? (6:56)
- **12.** What does the fact that "all who touched Jesus were healed" tell us about the people's attitude? (6:56)
- 13. Why do you think Jesus, who was the Son of God, spent time in prayer?
- **14.** How do you think you would have reacted if you had been with the disciples that night?
- **15.** What did the disciples have to learn the hard way?
- **16.** What does this story tell us about human nature?
- 17. How can you make yourself sensitive to the lessons God wants to teach you this week?

## **Life Application Bible Notes**

<u>6:49, 50</u> The disciples were afraid, but Jesus' presence calmed their fears. When you experience fear, do you try to deal with it yourself, or do you let Jesus deal with it? In times of fear and uncertainty, it is calming to know that Christ is always with you (<u>Matthew 28:20</u>). To recognize Christ's presence is the antidote for fear.

6:52 The disciples didn't want to believe, perhaps because (1) they couldn't accept the fact that this human named Jesus was really the Son of God; (2) they dared not believe that the Messiah would choose them as his followers; (3) they still did not understand the real purpose for Jesus' coming to earth. Their disbelief took the form of misunderstanding. Even after watching Jesus miraculously feed 5,000 people, they still could not take the final step of faith and believe that he was God's Son. If they had, they would not have been amazed that Jesus could walk on water.

Is your heart hardened against Jesus? Even Christians can be hardhearted to Jesus' word. We can be informed about what his Word says, and we can be amazed at how he has worked in other people's lives, but we can refuse to believe he will come to our aid in our time of trouble. Such a reaction is not unbelief, but willful, hardhearted rejection of Christ's ability to help. Instead, "take courage," and trust that he is there for you.

Mark Study Guide questions and notes are from

