



“The Good Shepherd”

Mark 6:30-44 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon
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Introduction –In Mark chapter 6 we look at one of the most familiar and beloved stories of Jesus- the feeding of the five thousand.

I. The Good Shepherd’s Rest.

- A. Following a time of effective ministry, and the news of John the Baptist’s death, Jesus leads His disciples to rest.

- B. The rest Jesus gives is not a place, but a person.

II. The Good Shepherd’s Compassion.

- A. The crowd they left in Capernaum runs ahead of their boat and meets them on the other side of the shore on the Sea of Galilee.

- B. This is a lonely, deserted, rural and wilderness area.

- C. It was also a stronghold for the Zealot movement in Israel at the time.

- D. When Jesus saw the crowd, He had compassion on them because “*they were like sheep without a shepherd.*”
 - 1. This is a significant Old Testament reference that tells us something about the crowd, and what prompted Jesus’ compassion.

 - 2. The crowd was looking for a military leader to lead their revolution against Herod, and Rome’s occupation.

- E. As a Good Shepherd, Jesus responds to them by giving them what they need, not what they want.

III. The Good Shepherd’s Provision.

- A. The disciples see that the crowd needs to eat and come to Jesus with an urgent plea – “send them away.”

- B. But Jesus tells the disciples to feed the crowd themselves.

- C. Jesus’ miracle was a lesson for the disciples.
 - 1. What do they have?

 - 2. Jesus multiplies what they have so they can serve it to others.

- D. Likewise, what Jesus asks His disciples to do is humanly impossible. But in His hands it becomes more than what we can produce.

Conclusion