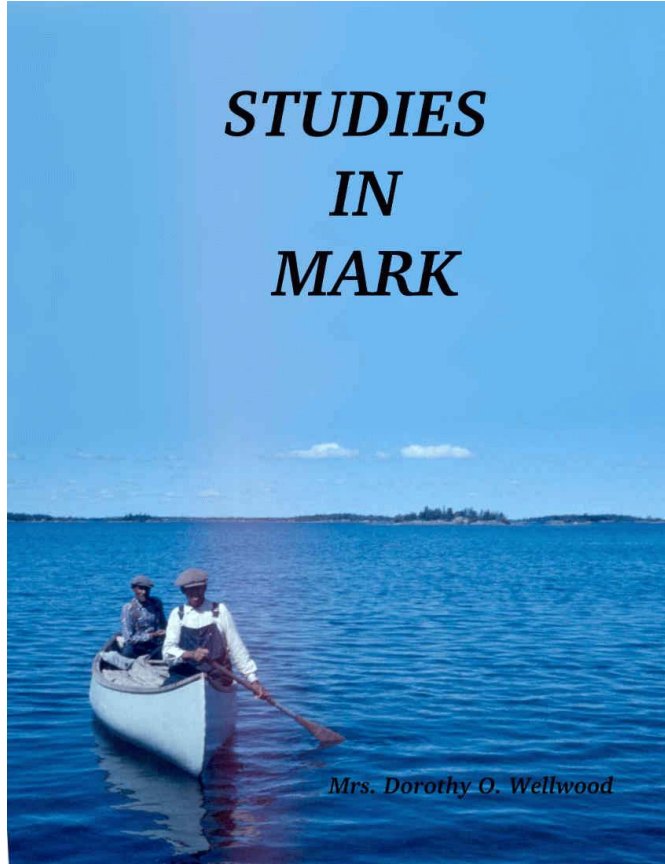


***STUDIES
IN
MARK***



LESSON 21

MARK 6:31-44

Jesus had sent the disciples out to preach the Gospel. In chapter 6, verses 30 and 31, we are told that the disciples had just come back. Now they tell Jesus all they had done and taught. Jesus had given them all the spiritual food they needed to feed people who were hungry for God's Word. Today's lesson teaches us something else about food.

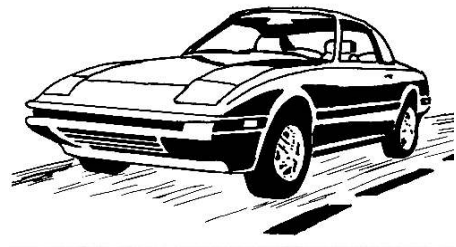
READ MARK 6:31-44

Fill in the blanks.

1. In verse 31, Jesus told the tired disciples to come away with Him and _____ .
2. Look up Matthew 11:28.
 - a. When we are tired, Jesus says, " _____ ."
 - b. When we do, He promises to give us His _____ .
3. Where did Jesus take His disciples? (verses 31,32) _____ .
4. What kind of a place is that? _____ .
5. How did Jesus and His disciples go to that place? _____ .

It was good that at least four of Jesus' followers were fishermen and knew how to row a boat, or use a sail.

When Jesus calls us to follow Him, He lets us serve Him with the things we know how to do. The disciples' boats found a new use. Jesus does not expect us to use what we do not have. Jesus asks us

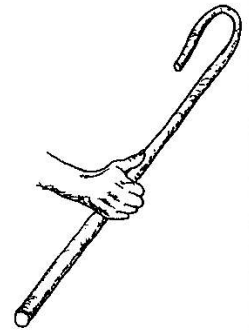


to serve Him with what we have. If we have a car, or a pickup, we can take people to church with it, or we can take a sick person to the doctor. If we are able to read we can help someone who cannot read. We can read the Bible to him.

When Moses did not think he could do what God told Him to do, God said to Moses,

"What is that in your hand?"

Moses said, "It is a rod." What Moses had in his hand was only the stick he used in taking care of the sheep. When Moses did what God told him to do with it, God did miracles with that same rod, or stick. (Read Exodus 14:16,21,22.)



Sometimes a mother thinks she is not serving the Lord. She is only washing, and scrubbing and mending, or working on hides for moccasins, and bringing up children and cooking and, and, and . . . But if she gives herself and the things she does in a day to the Lord, God will use her and those things. God will put a prayer in her heart and a song on her lips to praise Him. This is serving the Lord too.

6. At the same time Jesus and the disciples left by boat, many city people started for the same place. They did not have any cars or boats.
How did they get there?

7. **Write the** right answers on the line provided. (verses 33-37)

- 1) The people from the cities came (slowly, when they had the time, running).
- 2) (Many people, a few people, great crowds of people) are in a hurry to get to Jesus today.

- 3) Jesus wanted to take His disciples to a quiet place where they all could have a rest. When Jesus got there, He found a big crowd of people already waiting for Him. Jesus (was disappointed, felt sorry for them, felt sorry for Himself and His followers).
8. Jesus felt that way because He said they were like (people without a king, an Indian band without a chief, sheep without a shepherd).

SHEEP AND SHEPHERDS

Mountain sheep in the Yukon can take care of themselves. Farm sheep, kept for their wool and their meat are stupid. They need someone to take care of them. Many animals and birds can find their way home, even a long ways. But sheep do not know which way is home. They cannot fight a wild animal, so they are never safe when they are lost. If sheep have nobody to take care of them, they could not last long in wild country. Jesus often talks about sheep and the shepherd. The shepherd takes care of sheep. In Isaiah 53:6, God says we are like sheep. He says, "All we, like sheep have gone astray (got lost); we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him (our good Shepherd) the sin of us all."



9. Look up these verses in your Bible and fill in the blanks:
- Psalm 23:1 - "The _____ is my _____ I shall not _____."
- Psalm 23:2 - "He _____ in _____ He leads me _____."
- John 10:11 - Jesus said, "I am the _____ the _____ gives His _____."
10. If people in Mark 6:33 were like sheep, who wanted to be their shepherd and take care of them? _____.

11. What did He do for them in verse 34? .
12. It got late and near supper time. What did the disciples tell Jesus to do about the people?
 them because they have to . (verse 36)
13. Would that be a good way for a shepherd to take care of his sheep? .
14. It is strange how worried the disciples got when they did not know what they were going to do. They seemed to forget that Jesus was right there and He could do anything.
 Are we really any better? .
15. In verse 37, Jesus told the disciples to feed the people.

They said that would cost . That is about \$40.00 in our money. This was likely more than what they had. On the last page we said that Jesus wants to use what we have, even if it is only a little. "What is that in your hand?"
 How much did they really have? and .

In John 6:9 it tells us that they only had a little boy's lunch. This was not enough to fill up one grown-up man!

16. Read Matthew 14:21 to see how many hungry people there were.
 It says there were about thousand men, besides and .
17. How much was left over after everybody had enough? .

One basketful was left for each of the twelve disciples. The good Shepherd had proved that He was able to feed all His sheep! He proved that He could easily have fed more.



18. What did the disciples do in this miracle?
(last part of verse 41)

19. What did Jesus do? (verse 41)

- a. He took
- b. He looked
- c. He
- d. He
- e. He



20. What did the little boy who had the lunch do?

We should give Jesus all we have. It may not be much, but He will use it for good.
"Little is much, if God is in it!"

Jesus said,
**"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD:
THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIVETH HIS LIFE
FOR THE SHEEP."**
John 10:11

**JESUS SAID UNTO THEM,
"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE;
HE THAT COMETH TO ME
SHALL NEVER HUNGER;
AND HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME
SHALL NEVER THIRST."**
John 6:35

STUDIES IN MARK by Dorothy O. Wellwood.

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