

“Discipleship Means Trusting Jesus”

Mark 6:14-56

5/26/24

Message 15

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Discipleship Means Trusting Jesus”

- **Last Week - The Cost Of Discipleship**

- **The Word Discipleship**

- Greek: MATHETES (math-ay-tes')

- Means - A learner, i.e. pupil: KJV-- disciple

- One who accepts the instruction given to him and makes it his rule of conduct, and lives by it!

- I love the way Oswald Chambers defines it!

- *Discipleship means personal, passionate devotion to a Person---our Lord Jesus Christ. There is a vast difference between devotion to a person and devotion to a principle or to a cause. Our Lord never proclaimed a cause--- He proclaimed personal devotion to Himself. To be a disciple is to be a devoted bondservant motivated by love for the Lord Jesus.*

- Clear up Any Confusion

- Now - I know in our CONSUMER driven church age

- There are some Christians that don't think they are Disciples

- But this is simply not true

- When we embrace Jesus as Lord & Savior, we have become His Disciples
- **Ask Yourself Are you Really a Disciple of Jesus or a Consumer?**
 - What's the difference? - Pastor Tim Brown (CCF)
 - A Consumer asks, "Does this please me?"
 - A Disciple asks, "Does this please God?"
 - A Consumer asks, "What will I get out of it?"
 - A Disciple asks, "What can I put into it?"
 - A Consumer has their comfort in focus
 - A Disciple has God's glory in focus
 - Consumers want to be served
 - Disciples want to serve
 - Consumers need to be pampered
 - Disciples want to be challenged
 - Consumers want to pay as little as they can to get as much as they can
 - Disciples pay full price for whatever God has for them.
- **Our Mission As A Disciple - We are to be About Our Lord's Business**
 - **Follow Jesus**

- Wherever He goes!
- Follow Jesus' Words (All of THEM)
 - We don't get to pick and choose

▪ **SOULS – Disciples!!!**

Matthew 28:19–20 (NKJV)

19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
20 *teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

- **Evangelism**
 - To Seek and SAVE that which was LOST
 - Reaching out to people who do not know Him
 - Sharing the gospel that their souls may be saved!
- **NOTE:**

○ **This is EVERY CHRISTIAN'S Responsibility**

- Not just those called to Full Time Ministry

• **So – ALL Believers should see...**

- **Every Job, Family Holiday, Encounter, - As A Pulpit –**
 - As an opportunity to share Jesus –
 - The ONLY Hope for mankind

• **Last Week - We Looked at 2 out of 3 REALITIES to Being a Disciple**

- **The Rejection That Can Happen vs. 1-6**

- Even with Family
- **The Reliance On Jesus That Is Needed vs. 7-13**
 - Set them out in teams of 2
 - Trust God to PROVIDE
 - Simply Jesus
- **The Reaction Of Herod That Could Happen To Us vs. 14-29**
 - The One we did not get to
 - It may even cost us our lives

• **Now this morning we will look at 3 POWERFUL TRUTHS In TRUSTING Jesus**

- Trusting Jesus By Dedication Our Life To Him Even If It Means Death vs. 14-29
- Trusting Jesus To Meet Our Daily Needs vs. 30-44
- Trusting Jesus In Difficult Circumstances vs. 45-56

Trusting Jesus By Dedication Our Life To Him Even If It Means Death vs. 14-29

• **First: The Concern vs. 14-16**

- **1st King Herod v. 14**

Mark 6:14 (NKJV)

14 Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him."

- **Who is - Herod Antipas I**
 - A son of Herod the Great!
 - Herod Antipas was tetrarch

- Ruler of a fourth part of his father's kingdom along with three of his brothers
- Of Galilee and Perea (the northern areas of Israel) with the backing of Rome from 4 BC to AD 39.
- Technically
 - He was not a full-fledged king but he served the function of a king.
- **Jesus is becoming well known**
 - Even to the point that now the palace of Herod has heard about Jesus.
- **2nd It is Elijah v. 15**

Mark 6:15 (NKJV)

15 Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of the prophets."

- **There were a lot of different ideas about Jesus.**
 - People didn't know what to make of Him.
 - Jesus quizzes His disciples about who they think He is (Mark 8:27-29).
- **3rd This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead v. 16**

Mark 6:16 (NKJV)

16 But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!"

- **Herod has some wrong ideas about Jesus.**
 - His bad ideas are probably based on his own guilty conscience...

- **Second: The Cause of JTB Arrest vs. 17-18**

- **1st Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John vs. 17-18**

Mark 6:17–18 (NKJV)

17 For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her.

18 Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

- **Herod imprisoned John for his Bold Rebuke of his SIN**

- It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife

- **John Preached Repentance**

- John did not spare the rich and powerful.
- He called Herod and his wife Herodias to repent

- **Application**

- **1st Preach Repentance**

- Despite what the consumer "church" tells us

- **We Preach Repentance to a LOST WORLD**

- The DBR of Christ
- Why because we are sinners and need a Savior
- We LOVE Sinners enough to TELL the TRUTH
- Jesus Loves you –
- You Need to Repent to receive that love

- **2nd Don't Be afraid to Speak Out**

- I Guess JTB did not get the memo
 - Don't be Political
 - Don't offend anyone with your message
- When Are commanded to Speak the TRUTH in LOVE

John 3:16–21 (NKJV)

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

- The world DOES NOT want to hear this message
 - What Happened to John can Happen to us
 - Is happening all over the world
 - Haiti – Nigeria
 - Christian are being martyred for their faith
 - This too could happen to us

- One reason why the church has gotten soft on SIN
 - It wants to remain popular not be persecuted

Ephesians 5:11–14 (NKJV)

11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

12 For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

13 But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

14 Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.”

- We need to Expose EVIL
 - Pulpit need to be MORE BOLD
 - Yet we are told don't speak out
 - Don't be political (Which I don't Understand)
 - Don't offend
 - This country / world is headed for the destruction
 - AS SALT –
 - We have a responsibility to warn
 - To Preserve
 - The progressive / Liberal / Woke / Globalist ideology is EVIL
 - It needs to be exposes

- BLM is EVIL
- What our government to promoting in schools is EVIL
- Yet Pulpit remain silent afraid they will lose money – members
- Illustration
 - School boards

• **Third: The Circumstances That Lead to JTB Death vs. 19-29**

- **1st And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced vs. 19-23**

Mark 6:19–23 (NKJV)

19 Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not;

20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.

21 Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee.

22 And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you."

23 He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

- **Herodias' daughter (Salome) shamelessly danced before Herod and friends**

- Winning favor and a special request.

- **Dance**

- Refers to a solo dance with highly suggestive hand and body movements, comparable to a modern striptease

- **2nd So she went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” vs. 24-26**

Mark 6:24–26 (NKJV)

24 So she went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist!”

25 Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”

26 And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her.

- **The immediate reply of Herodias**

- Showed that the mother had this planned out all along.
- She knew her husband and she knew the situation, and knew she could get what she wanted this way.

- **The king was exceedingly sorry**

- Yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her

- **3rd Immediately the king Sent An Executioner vs. 27-29**

Mark 6:27–29 (NKJV)

27 Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison,

28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.

29 When his disciples heard of it, they came and took away his corpse and laid it in a tomb.

- **We Must Understand this last point**

- When we preach the Gospel stand up for righteousness
- We may also end up paying the Price – having our very life taken!

Trusting Jesus To Meet Our Daily Needs vs. 30-44

- **First: The Circumstances vs. 30-36**

- **1st Gathered To Jesus v. 30**

Mark 6:30 (NKJV)

30 *Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught.*

- **Context**

- Coming Back from their first - Mission Trip
- Being sent by Jesus into the towns of Galilee (Mark 6:7-12)

- **Told Him All things – About their first ministry**

- What they did
- What they taught
- The disciples came back from a successful time of ministry!!!

- **Application**

- Ministry is VERY Hard – Work
 - **BUT it is way more Exciting than Hard**
- 1st The Fact that God would even use us!
- 2nd When you see God move
 - And you know it's NOT YOU
 - There is an excitement that just needs to be shared
- 3rd Important NOTE

- When we share – be careful that ALL GLORY goes to GOD
- **2nd Come Aside by yourselves vs. 31-32**

Mark 6:31–32 (NKJV)

31 And He said to them, “*Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.*” For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.

32 So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves.

- **1st After a Hard / Joyous time Serving Jesus - It is good to REST**

- Jesus knew they needed A Time of REST
 - Jesus knew when it was time to WORK
 - He knew when it was time to REST
- Clarke; “Rest is necessary for those who labour; and a zealous preacher of the Gospel will as often stand in need of it as a galley slave.”
- Vance Havner has said, “If you don’t come apart and rest, you will come apart

- **2nd Application - The Importance of REST**

- **For Everyone**
 - If God took a Sabbath
 - How much more should we
 - Do your best to find one day a week to rest
- **For Pastors / Leaders / Ministers**
 - Not to be Self – Serving

- Ministry is VERY HARD WORK
 - I have been on BOTH sides
 - Experience
 - Managed Restaurants for almost 18 years
 - Sales
 - I understand the demands
 - But Ministry is the HARDEST
 - The Demands are different
 - Not just Business
 - It about SOULS
 - Eternal Life and death
 - Marriages / Families / Health
 - With all respect the weight on a minister is for more heavy then in the business world
 - Most do not realize the intense stress and demands
 - The work does not end / there is always a need
 - There are so many things pastor do that they can NEVER TALK About

- Most Pastors I know are by nature Workaholics
 - So - Taking time off is hard for them to do
 - Most work 7 days a week
 - This is NOT Good – They need to rest
 - So - It is Critical to find / make time to rest
- **3rd The multitudes saw them departing v. 33**

Mark 6:33 (NKJV)

***33** But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him.*

▪ **1st The Multitude FOLLOWED**

- All these guys NEEDED / WANTED was a LITTLE REST
 - And they get where they're going and BAM
 - There are the Multitudes
- The NEEDS are always there
 - There is NEVER a time when people are not hurting
 - Ministry NEVER RUNS out
 - The Work is NEVER FINISHED

▪ **2nd How the Disciples Might have FELT**

- May even began to see the crowd as a BURDEN (Send them away)

- Remember Ministry needs NEVER end
 - You have been super busy and BAM now there is even more to do
 - Your tired all you need and want to is rest
- Illustration
 - So many times, at CCA we came off a huge outreach / event
 - And you come in on Monday AM
 - You still have a lot of admin stuff to do
 - Got to get ready for staff meeting
 - And BAM there is the Crown
 - The hard part
 - They are acting all you have been doing is sitting round
 - So It's hard not look at the multitude and say it has become a burden
- Application
 - Again, not to appear to be self-serving
 - But I CAN'T TELL you all how many times this happens to pastors
 - Illustration
 - Days off lost

- Vacation Canceled or Cut Short
- Anniversaries, birthdays, holidays, postponed
- JUST an FYI
 - It's harder on Pastors wives and Kids then on the pastor

○ **3rd Because they were like sheep without a shepherd v. 34a**

Mark 6:34 (NKJV)

34 And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.

▪ **Compassionate Savior**

- Jesus' heart was always one of compassion and love...
 - Even in the middle of trying to “get away for a break”
- He still saw people as MORE IMPORTANT!
 - Jesus knew that without a shepherd,
 - Sheep were in a lot of trouble.
 - Sheep Need a Shephard

▪ **Application**

- The LAST thing you want in an Under Shephard / Pastor / Leader / Ministry Worker
 - Is a CLOCK / CALENDAR WATCHER
 - It's 5pm AM outa here
 - I Got my 40 in I am done

- TGIF
- It's MY Time
- It MY Weekend (Day OFF)
- Someone who thinks like this is NOT cut out for the ministry
- Pastor / Leader / Ministry Worker
 - Must be driven by the SAME Compassion as Jesus is
 - They must do their best to meet those in need
 - NOTE
 - They are human
 - So they do their best
 - Sometimes I have to make sure I meet the greatest need – it's a matter of priority
 - There are MANY times I am asked to be in many places at the same time!
 - I wish I could but I can't
 - **4th So He began to teach them many things v. 34b**

Mark 6:34 (NKJV)

34 And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. **So He began to teach them many things.**

- As a faithful Shepherd
 - Jesus took care of their most pressing need.

- He fed them with the Word of God
- May we do our best to do the same
- **5th Send them away... for they have nothing to eat: v. 35-36**

Mark 6:35–36 (NKJV)

35 *When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late.*

36 *Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat.”*

▪ **1st Both Jesus and the disciples**

- Saw exactly the same need among the multitude.

▪ **2nd But they can to different conclusions**

- The Disciple’s solution
 - Send them AWAY
- Jesus
 - You give them something to eat

• **Second: The Challenge To The Disciples vs. 37-38**

- **1st Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread v. 37-38**

Mark 6:37–38 (NKJV)

37 *But He answered and said to 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 them something to eat?”*

38 *But He said to them, “**How many loaves do you have? Go and see.**” And when they found out they said, “Five, and two fish.”*

▪ **The Test!**

- Will you seek to do ministry in your own POWER Or will you LOOK to Jesus
 - John's gospel focuses on the reaction of 2 of the disciples - Phillip & Andrew
 - PHILLIP
 - So Jesus asked him - where can we buy some bread to feed these people?

John 6:5 (NKJV)

5 *Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"*

- Now Jesus was not really asking for advice...but He was setting up "a test"
- Phillip's Responses

John 6:7 (NKJV)

7 *Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."*

- He knew the need.... knew the area.... knew there wasn't a Costco around.... he knew it wouldn't work!

○ ANDREW

- "There is a boy - 2 fish & 5 loaves - but what is that against so many." A little faith
- Andrew has no food and no solution...
- BUT he finds this kid and brings that kid in contact with Jesus

○ **2nd NOW Jesus gives them an Impossible TASK**

- Impossible for Us - BUT not for HIM

- Important to note this because He often does the same thing with us
- *QUOTE: “When God is going to do something wonderful He begins with a difficulty... when He's going to do something very wonderful, he begins with an impossibility!”*
- Ministry is an impossible task given BY a possible God
- BUT with GOD... Well that another story
- *Wiersbe “Ministry takes place when divine resources meet human needs through loving channels to the glory of God.”*

Ephesians 3:20–21 (NKJV)

20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,
21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Third: The Characteristics Of God's Supply vs. 39-44

- **1st Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups v. 39-40**

Mark 6:39–40 (NKJV)

39 Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass.

40 So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties.

- **1st So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties:**
 - Jesus organized the multitude.
- **2nd Application**
 - How I love Organization

- 2nd He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves v. 41

Mark 6:41 (NKJV)

41 And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all.

- **When Jesus blessed before the meal, He didn't bless the food; He blessed God for supplying it.**
 - The idea of praying before a meal isn't to bless the food
 - It is to bless God in the sense of thanking and honoring Him for blessing us with the food.
- **GAVE Them**
 - Imperfect tense, was continuously giving.
 - It seems the actual multiplication of food happened in Jesus' own hands
 - After He broke the loaves and when He started giving out the food to the disciples.

- 3rd So they all ate and were filled v. 42-44

Mark 6:42–44 (NKJV)

42 So they all ate and were filled.

43 And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish.

44 Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men.

- **All Ate**
 - In this culture to be filled was not a normal thing
 - They may be blessed with one meal a day
 - Hardly enough to fill

- But when Jesus feeds – He fills
- **Took Up 12 Baskets**
 - Even had just enough left over for His guys
- **5000 MEN**
 - Did not count women and children
 - Some Estimate this to be over 15,000
- **4th Application**
 - **God can take the little bit we have and does a lot with it**
 - That which is insignificant and insufficient - becomes significant and sufficient in the hands of Jesus
 - Examples
 - Dust is INSIGNIFICANT
 - But in the hands of the Creator it became man
 - The jawbone of donkey is INSIGNIFICANT
 - In God's hands - Samson killed 1000 enemies
 - A sling and 5 smooth stones are INSUFFICIENT for battle...
 - David killed the great threat of Israel, Goliath
 - **Change our THINKING**
 - Stop Thinking like we do / only seeing the impossible

- Begin to think like God
- Don't think that what you have is useless because it is insignificant
- You may not have the gifts and talents of others...but don't forget God
- Remember The mathematics of a miracle:
 - 5 Loaves + 2 Fish = Not Enough
 - 5 Loaves + 2 Fish + Jesus Christ = MORE THAN ENOUGH
 - Without Him - nothing... with Him - everything

Trusting Jesus In Difficult Circumstances vs. 45-56

• First: The Pressure vs. 45-50a

- 1st He sent the multitude away v. 45

Mark 6:45 (NKJV)

45 Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away.

- Jesus loved the multitude,

- BUT it is now time for that rest

- 2nd He departed to the mountain to pray: v. 46

Mark 6:46 (NKJV)

46 And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray.

- PRAYER

- If Prayer was IMPORTANT to / for Jesus

- How much more for us!
- Application
 - How is your prayer life? –
 - Dig into a little more – Really How is IT?!!!
 - Proud of our church in the way were praying
 - BUT we need MORE
 - God commands us to pray and to call on His name and fall on our face and intercede for the needs of the church, our city, our state, our nation, and all the nations.
 - Prayer is HARD work
 - Think about it
 - How come its the smallest meeting at churches
 - How come when you go to pray – everything seems to fall apart
 - How come we can talk with someone about a prayer request for an hour yet the moment we go to pray distraction come
 - Prayer is spiritual – the enemy is attacking
 - We must push through
 - **3rd The boat was in the middle of the sea v. 47-50**

Mark 6:47–50 (NKJV)

47 Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land.

48 Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by.

49 And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out;

*50 for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, **“Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.”***

- He saw them straining at the rowing as they attempted to cross the lake in the face of the wind.
 - Unknown to the disciples
 - Jesus saw their difficulty and cared for them.
- About the fourth watch of the night is
 - Somewhere around 3am
- Jesus almost walked casually because He would have passed them by.
 - Jesus came over to them only after they responded with fear and cried out.
- Matthew’s account tells us Peter Walked on the Water

• **Second: The Presence vs. 51-52**

- **1st He went up into the boat to them: v. 51**

Mark 6:51 (NKJV)

51 Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled.

- **As Jesus got into the boat with them**
 - Miraculously the boat was instantly carried over to the other side (John 6:21).
 - Jesus rescued His disciples from working in futility.

- 2nd For They Had Not Understood v. 52

Mark 6:52 (NKJV)

52 For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.

- They could not grasp Jesus' supernatural character!
 - Slow learners if you will

• **Third: The Power vs. 53-56**

- 1st As many as touched Him were made well

Mark 6:53–56 (NKJV)

53 When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret and anchored there.

54 And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him,

55 ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was.

56 Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.

- We see more of the power of Jesus over the laws of nature.

Closing

- May we ALL Grow in Trusting Jesus