

## MARK 6:30-32

## HUMAN NEED

<sup>30</sup> *The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.* <sup>31</sup> *Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."* <sup>32</sup> *So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.*

We human beings are integrated bodies and spirits, and as such, we need to be fed and cared for on both levels. To neglect our physical needs is to truncate our spiritual effectiveness in our kingdom work. In the adrenaline rush of their recent spirit-fueled ministry experience, the apostles were in danger of being sucked into the vortex of human need and ultimately spit out as compassion fatigued wreckage. Jesus reminds them that they need to tend to their physical need for food, quiet and rest. Often when we are hungry, stressed out or exhausted we make bad decisions and major mistakes.

We are called to Jesus in order to be sent out into the world. This call is not a one-time event, but a lifetime endeavor. We need to check in daily for direction, nourishment, correction and empowerment. The idea of dependence is built into the concept of being sent. Someone does the sending and that One provides the message, the address and the authority. When we do not regularly seek God's counsel we are in danger of getting the message wrong, as well as becoming burned out.

Come to Jesus so that you may be an effective witness to his power to meet the needs of your neighbors.

**Draw me to yourself, Lord Jesus, so that I may not only be refreshed, but so that I might be a faithful messenger of your message of love and reconciliation to the world. Help me not to get so caught up in the doing of ministry that I forget my need to stay connected to the source of the power for ministry. Amen.**