

The Good Shepherd > Mark 6:30-44

6:30-34 *Compassion for people.* The disciples return from their mission trip and are all set to take a well-earned rest away from the crowds and with Jesus. Yet, the real needs of the people around them change the schedule: Christ has compassion on the crowd.

6:35-40 *Serving in Christ.* The way that Christ will care for the crowd is to use his own disciples. Though they are tired, lacking faith, and desperately need a break, Jesus will use them to bring Christ's provision to the people.

6:41-44 *Jesus satisfies.* Though the disciples can't do what is needed, Jesus can! He provides both life-giving truth (in his teaching) and also the practical necessity of food – and he uses the disciples to serve that food. They, in turn, receive what they most need from Jesus, too.

The Point: Christ provides for his people. He is our Good Shepherd who guides and provides for us. Our role is to trust him and to be useful to him in the service of others.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for providing for us in ways large and small; what we need for each day and also what we need for eternity. Grow our faith so that we would trust you more fully and show others how to have that same kind of trust in our Savior.

Application: Jesus provides enough for us to serve him and to serve others. Follow him in faithfulness even when you are tired and lacking – he will provide all that is needed.

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
