

YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT

Matthew 14:1-21

Key Verse: 14:16

1. Read verses 1-2. What did Herod the tetrarch think when he heard reports about Jesus? Why? What does this suggest about dangers Jesus might face?

2. Read verses 4-5. Why had Herod had John arrested and imprisoned? Why did he not have John killed immediately? Read verses 6-11. What happened on Herod's birthday? Why did he have John beheaded? What does this tell us about Herod?

3. Read verses 12-13. Why might Jesus want some private time alone? How were his plans thwarted? How might he have felt? Read verse 14. Why did he have compassion on the crowd? How did he serve them?

4. As evening approached, what practical suggestion did the disciples make? (15). What was the disciples' condition? What did Jesus say? How was his compassion different from theirs? What was he teaching them? (16)

5. Read verses 17-21. What did the disciples have? What did Jesus ask them to do? (18) What did Jesus then do? (19) Why did he give thanks? How did he enable the disciples to feed the crowd?

6. How many people were fed and how much was left over? What was Jesus teaching his disciples and us through this event? What should we learn from Jesus who overcame his own feelings of sorrow, and perhaps, apprehension, to serve others?