



## Part 4: Pain

Grant Fishbook, Teaching Pastor  
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### Matthew 14:12-36

<sup>12</sup> John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

<sup>15</sup> As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

<sup>17</sup> "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

<sup>18</sup> "Bring them here to me," he said.

<sup>19</sup> And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>21</sup> The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to

pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

<sup>29</sup> "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

<sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

<sup>34</sup> When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. <sup>35</sup> And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him <sup>36</sup> and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

### 24 Hours in the Life of Jesus

- Jesus is told that John the Baptist has been murdered
- He withdraws to a solitary place
- Jesus heals the sick
- Jesus feeds the 5,000
- Jesus sends the disciples off and he goes alone to pray
- Jesus walks on water to rescue the disciples

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## **When I am in the pain of crisis, Jesus knows how I feel.**

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

– Hebrews 4:15

### **3 Observations of How Jesus Handled the Pain of Crisis**

#### **1) Jesus paused in the before and the after**

Matthew 14:13 – When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.

Matthew 14:23 – After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone...

#### **2) Jesus found his strength in God.**

##### **Release your frustration**

Psalm 62:8 – Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

##### **Receive help**

1 Thessalonians 5:11 – Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

##### **Refocus on God**

Jonah 2:7 – “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.”

#### **3) Jesus viewed people as opportunities, not as interruptions**

Matthew 14:14 – When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

### **Small Group Questions**

- 1) How are you planning on spending Thanksgiving?
- 2) What is the greatest crisis you have ever faced? How did you handle it?
- 3) Read Hebrews 4:15. Why does it matter that Jesus knows how I feel?
- 4) Do you think choosing to pause before and after your own times of crisis would change the outcome of that crisis? In what ways?
- 5) In what practical ways could you follow the model of Jesus as you anticipate the stress of the holiday season?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?

**OUR MISSION** | To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.