

## **Mark's Wild Gospel**

### **Week 5 – A Wild Authority**

1. Describe a time when you were moved with compassion towards a person or persons. How did you respond?
2. Read Mark 6:30-44. What does Jesus' reaction to the crowd tell you about his character, his authority, and his mission?
3. Reread verses 35-37. What do you see in this interchange as Jesus directs the disciples to feed the people? Why do you think Jesus tells his disciples to feed them?
4. Why do you think Jesus provided more food than what was needed, even to the point that the disciples gathered the leftovers? What lesson is Jesus teaching his disciples about his authority and how do we still need to learn this today?
5. While this miracle of Jesus demonstrates the authority of Jesus, it also demonstrates that the Kingdom of God is not just about power, but also overwhelming love. In what ways can we extend overflowing love to others?
6. Read Mark 6:45-56. Why was it important for Jesus to withdraw at times to pray and why does he send the others away?
7. Why do you think Jesus waited so long before he actually used his authority over creation?
8. How does the reaction of the people in Gennesaret provide a contrast to what happened in the boat with the disciples? What do you think is the point of the contrast?
9. How might we be encouraged by the disciples' slowness to understand who Jesus was? How might we also be convicted by their slowness?
10. How does our access to Jesus' authority continue to influence the world around us today?