

Right in Front of You: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of May 10th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** to complete foundational questions in the book for week 5 using the scripture below.

Week 12: Mark 6:45-52

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"Mark noted that all the disciples saw Jesus, and they all thought He was a phantom. Jesus told them to take courage and stop fearing (cf. Isa. 41:10, 13-14; 43:1; 44:2). Some interpreters believe the reference to Jesus passing by them (v. 48) and His words, "It is I," indicate a theophany (cf. Exod. 3:14; 33:19, 22; 1 Kings 19:11; Isa. 41:4; 43:10; 51:12; 52:6). Undoubtedly, the clause at least indicates self-identification." – Constable's Note

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- In Mark 6:45-48, Jesus tells the disciples to get in the boat, and they spend hours "straining at the oars" against the wind. Their struggle came while obeying Jesus, not avoiding Him. Have you ever experienced a season where following Jesus felt exhausting or discouraging? How did it affect your trust in Him?
- We see in Mark 6:48-50 that Mark says Jesus "saw the disciples straining," even when they couldn't see Him. But when He finally came to them, they didn't recognize Him. Why is it sometimes hard to recognize Jesus in the middle of difficult seasons? What can keep us grounded when He feels distant?
- Mark says the disciples were amazed in the storm because "they had not understood about the loaves." They forgot what Jesus had already shown them. How does remembering God's past faithfulness help us trust Him in present struggles? What are some "loaves" in your own life that you need to remember right now?