

Mark: The Mysterious Messiah

Week 13: Mark 6:30-52

Introductory Exercise: What does it mean to live according to the Bible?

When today's reading starts, what have the apostles/missionaries been doing that has made them so eager to tell of their deeds? What reason does Jesus give for seeking a more secluded place, and what ends up foiling that plan? What does Jesus see that inspires him to teach even here, and what Biblical echo is happening here?

What sorts of people approach Jesus in 6:35? What do they suggest to Jesus, and how does he respond? In responding so, what does Jesus continue to emphasize about the authority of the disciples? What Biblical echo finishes in 6:39 and 6:43 that started in 6:34?

What significant act does Jesus perform in 6:41, and what act later in the book does it anticipate?

Where are the apostles headed 6:45, and what time of the solar cycle? What setting details are converging once more? What are the disciples doing when Jesus sees them, and what Old Testament echo happens in Jesus's initial intent here?

What do the disciples think when he passes by, and what recurring theme in Mark gets highlighted here? To what two things does the text of Mark attribute their astonishment/standing-beside-themselves?

As Jesus and the disciples head off once more to "the other side," what important things should the disciples have discerned in today's episodes, and what keeps them from discerning them?