

Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for August 2, 2020:
Compassionate Action



For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with CGS Community or family

- **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **CONNECT** *with each other*
 - What does compassionate action look like in your life?
- **GROW** *in Christ*

Matt 14: 13-21 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

¹³ 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. ¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered. ¹⁸ “Bring them here to me,” he said. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹ The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today?
 - Read Matt 14: 3-12, the verses just before our text, to see what Jesus had heard that caused Him to “withdraw by boat to a solitary place.”
 - How did Jesus show “Compassionate Action” in verse 14? What does this show us about Jesus’ compassion, considering the devastating news He had just heard?
 - What was the disciples’ idea for Compassionate Action revealed in verse 15?
 - What does verse 17 reveal about the disciples’ assumption about what Jesus was asking them to do in verse 16?
 - How might the rest of the reading (vs 18-21) suggest to us when we feel inadequate to show Compassionate Action to those that we sense Jesus urging us to help?
 - If a definition of Compassionate Action is: “simply reaching out with a helping hand or a listening ear to someone who is struggling in some way”; how do you show Compassionate Action to someone, or when has it been shown to you?
- **SERVE** *others*

Who might God want you to show Compassionate Action to, and what is your next step toward doing it?
 - **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing.**