

Failure Isn't Always Fatal

Mark 6:45-56

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I. Mountaintop prayer. Mark 6:45-46

Jesus is fully man as well as fully God, so He knows what it is like to be tired; but, being tired caused Him to spend time with the Father instead of neglecting the _____ time of fellowship.

1. Jesus was alone to _____ Him for what was coming.
2. Jesus was alone to rest and fellowship after ministry.
3. Jesus was alone to _____ the loss of John the Baptist.
4. Jesus was alone to pray about an important _____.
5. Jesus was alone to pray in a time of _____.

II. Jesus was watching. Mark 6:47-51a

The Disciples were exhausted and getting nowhere by relying on their own strength and their own _____.

- Jesus walked _____ by and He **would have passed them by**; but, He only came over to them because they cried out to Him.

Jesus comforted the scared and worn out Disciples by telling them to **be of good cheer**. **Good cheer** means to have _____! **John 16:33**

III. Greatly amazed. Mark 6:51b-52

Peter displayed _____ faith to be able to get out of the boat and be bold enough to walk on the water!

- Many of us like to stay in our comfort zones, because taking risks can be scary; but, the Lord honors those who will be _____ in His kingdom, as He leads.

Notice **vs. 52** says the Disciples **had not understood about the loaves because their heart was** _____.

IV. Many were made well. Mark 6:53-56

"Christ, however, in his appearance brought love, affection and _____ to a world of apathy and complacency." (Barclay)

- "The men of that place presently knew Jesus and knew what mighty works He did wherever He came, what a universal _____ He was." (Henry)

V. Practical Application.

Many Christians get down on themselves because of past failures and allow those failures to prevent them from serving the Lord in the _____.

- Failures are not fatal because we are redeemed and _____.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **Mark 6:45-46**. Discuss the five times Jesus purposely was alone with the Father for prayer and fellowship listed in point I. of the sermon note sheet. *When do we need to be alone with the Lord?*
Matthew 4:1-2, Matthew 14:12-13, Luke 6:12-13, Matthew 26:36-39
2. Read **Mark 6:47-48**. What does it mean that Jesus **would have passed them by**? Why did Jesus seem to change His course?
Exodus 33:19, 22; Exodus 34:6, Genesis 28:10-17, Genesis 32:22-30
3. What did Jesus mean when He told the Disciples, "**Be of good cheer, it is I**"? Discuss why the statement "**It is I**" is so important.
John 16:33, Acts 23:11, Luke 8:48, Exodus 14:13-14
4. Have you ever asked the Lord to allow you to do something crazy or supernatural like Peter? Did you get out of the boat? Do you take risks in life, or do you regularly seek security? How have these tendencies molded your life?
5. When we choose to take comfort in Jesus, it may mean losing comfort in everything else. Does this idea bother you? Why or why not? What are you most afraid to lose? Is it possible that this might be the one thing that Jesus is asking you to walk away from? Why might He ask this of you?
John 10:23-26, Mark 9:35
6. Discuss how this story points to Peter's failures with his faith, and discuss how this story points to Peter's successes with his faith.
7. Read **Mark 6:51-52**. What affect did the hardened hearts of the Disciples have on their faith in Jesus?
Jeremiah 18:12, Exodus 7:3-14, Isaiah 6:10, Romans 2:5
8. Discuss the practical application.