

## No Time for Potato Salad

Matthew, Mark, Luke & John

"We know that God is Good! But we still struggle, we still hurt. We know where we will go at the end of this life. But there are times the road there seems to be rougher than we can drive." ~Randy Monroe

### 1. Jesus wanted time [with His Father](#).

📖 Matthew 14:11–13a (NIV84) "His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl, who carried it to her mother. <sup>12</sup> John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus. <sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, He withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place."

📖 Mark 6:29–30 (NIV84) "...John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb. <sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to Him all they had done and taught."

### 2. The apostles wanted time [with Jesus](#).

📖 Luke 9:10a (NIV84) "When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done."

📖 Matthew 10:7–8 (NIV) "As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' <sup>8</sup> Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

### 3. Jesus wanted time [with His apostles](#).

📖 Mark 6:31-32 (NIV) "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, He said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." <sup>32</sup> So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place."

📖 Luke 9:11a (NIV84) "...the crowds learned about it and followed Him."

### 4. The crowd wanted time [with them](#).

📖 Mark 6:33–34 (NIV84) "But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So He began teaching them many things."

📖 Mark 6:35–36 (NIV) "By this time it was late in the day, so His disciples came to Him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

📖 John 6:5–13 (NIV84) "...He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> He asked this only to test him, for He already had in mind what He was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered Him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" <sup>8</sup> Another of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, <sup>9</sup> "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. <sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. <sup>12</sup> When they had all had enough to eat, He said to His disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten."

📖 Matthew 14:22–25 (NIV84) "Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After He had dismissed them, He went up on a mountainside by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. <sup>25</sup> During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake."

**Digging Deeper:** Describe a time when things quickly went from calm to chaotic. Describe the most hectic day you've ever had. Have you ever had to deliver bad news to good friends? How does knowing that Jesus knows what you are going through help you? How did Jesus deal with the stress in His life? How do you deal with the stresses in your life?