

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Mark 6:30-44 together.
- 3) What do you think was Jesus' purpose in having the apostles report about their mission in verse 30? What benefit is there in sharing failures with a group? What benefit in sharing successes?
- 4) Do you have a tendency to work too much or too little? When Jesus invited the disciples to come away to a remote place, what does that say about the balance of work and rest?
- 5) Have there ever been times that you were so tired you seemed to have no compassion? What is the remedy for this deficiency?
- 6) Are peoples' "felt needs" sometimes different from what they really need? How can you determine what are the real needs of the people to whom you minister?
- 7) How can we meet the physical needs of people without turning our ministry into a "social gospel"? How can we advance the gospel of salvation without neglecting the physical needs of people? How is the response of the crowd a warning for us (John 6:15, 26–27)?
- 8) Have you ever known of a situation where the resources and manpower were clearly inadequate to complete the ministry task that God had unquestionably assigned? What happened?
- 9) What are some events that have brought you the most spiritual encouragement and prompted the most praise to God? Do these often arise out of impossible challenges?
- 10) End your time in prayer. Ask God to help you apply the things you've discussed and learned during this time of study.