



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

eBulletin weekly issue No. 146 • January 23, 2023

www.mountainstreamchurch.com

SELFLESS SERVANT

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



Matthew 14:13-14
Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

Jesus had just received devastating news. His cousin and ministry herald had just been wrongfully and brutally beheaded by Herod at the cruel whim of a mesmerizing dancer and her wicked mother (John 14:3-12). When Jesus heard this, He wanted a moment to Himself. He got on a boat and set out to get some solitude. But by the time He arrived at His destination a crowd had preempted Him and was waiting onshore. If you were Jesus, what would you do?

Have you ever needed a moment? Has life ever pressured you to the point where you need a moment to de-stress? Or maybe you just received terrible news and you need a little solitude to process the information? Perhaps you're exhausted and just need a little rest. So, you take some time to rest and recharge only to discover that your responsibilities have hounded you down demanding your attention? How do you feel? How do you respond? It is easy to become irritated or frustrated.

But when Jesus saw the crowd, He was moved with ... get this ... compassion! I had expected indignation, or at least exasperation. But no. Jesus saw the needs of the crowd and He was able to subordinate His desires and respond to their needs. They needed ministry that only He could provide, so He ministered.

Of course, there is a legitimate place for self-care. Sometimes we do need to get away for a moment and regroup. But what if that moment is not immediately available? What if there are serious (maybe

even urgent) demands that require your attention? Can you draw upon God's grace and strength to put your needs on hold and attend to others first? If you can lean on God for such a response, you may discover that He strengthens you to meet the challenges without being overwhelmed. You can be a blessing without becoming burnt out. Jesus was able to care abundantly for the crowd (15-21) and then go off for that time of solitude with His Father (verses 22-23). He could do that because He was a selfless servant.

What about us? Can we put our needs on hold for a moment and complete our assignments before taking a break? Can we walk so close to Jesus that, like Him, we become selfless servants who can go the extra mile without collapse?

May God strengthen and sustain us to emulate Christ in this area.

God bless you,
 Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

JAN 24

Join us via Zoom video
 Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

JAN 27

In-person at church.
 For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

FEB 5 & FEB 19

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

JAN 29

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service

Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

BEGIN in FEB

Plan to attend one convenient to you. Sign-up on our website or the Info. Ctr.

FEB 9 & FEB 10

In-person at church.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

JAN 29

In-person service & livestream

Livestreaming is only on Facebook and our church's website.

- Ladies Meeting this Saturday, January 28th at 10:30 am. Ladies, please come with any suggestions you have for 2023.
- Growth Groups begin February 9 & 10 at 7 pm at church. Sign up at the Information Center or online to attend one convenient to you.
- Carmelo Garcia is to be received into membership. If you have any comments, please contact Pastor James.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.
- Calvary School of the Bible (CBS) offers a 3-year program with courses on Christian living, ministries, theology, and Bible book surveys. Check out this link to some uploaded classes www.cbepoconos.org and contact H. Lee Thompson directly at hleet1412@gmail.com for more information.

QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!