



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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www.mountainstreamchurch.com

MOVED BY COMPASSION

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 needed a moment. Having just received the news of the beheading of his cousin and forerunner John the Baptist, He decided to go away to a desolate place for a while. It seems like He wanted to mourn the loss of John, and to find some solace in solitude. He got into a boat and departed. When He arrived at the other shore, He found waiting for Him ... a crowd of people!

Have you ever needed a moment? Just a little break from the challenges and demands of life. Per-

haps you have suffered a loss. Perhaps you are dealing with some personal issue. Perhaps you are just drained from constantly giving and giving. So, you arrange a well-needed break – only to find that your responsibilities, like rabid paparazzi, have pursued you there. How would you respond?

When Jesus saw the crowd that had doggedly followed Him He experienced an intense emotion – and His reaction showed it. No. It wasn't anger. Nor was it frustration. It was compassion. As He looked at the ragtag crowd, He saw beyond the nuisance they appeared to be. He saw people who had pursued Him because they had deep needs only He could meet. So, he ministered to them in all the ways they needed. He healed their sick. He taught them the Word of God. And when evening came, He refused to send them away hungry. He miraculously multiplied a young lad's lunch to feed the more than five thousand people gathered there. Then after dismissing the sated crowd, He went off by Himself to commune with His Father (verse 23).

It is healthy to take occasional breaks. We are fi-

nite beings who need rest and revitalization. That is how God made us. Yet, there will be times when we'll need to sacrifice or postpone our breaks so we can minister to people with urgent needs. We need to ask God to help us develop compassionate hearts that will move us to respond to opportunities He places in our paths – even if at first they seem like nuisances.

Praise God that Jesus was moved with compassion not only for that crowd, but for the whole world. That is why He left Heaven to come to earth to die on the cross for us so we can be delivered from our sin.

May God help us grow in the compassion like our Savior.

God bless you,

Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

MAY 23

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

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

MAY 26

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

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

JUN 4

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

MAY 28

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service
 Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

Begin

JUN 8 & JUN 9

In-person at church.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

MAY 28

In-person service and Livestreaming on Facebook, Youtube and our webpage.

- **Vacation Bible School is July 17-21.**
 A) Members may sign up to serve at the Information Center.
 B) Students can be registered online.
- **Baptism this Sunday, May 28** following the morning service.
- **Explore Mountain Stream Class** for folks interested in becoming members or just finding out what our church believes **begins June 4 at 10 am.** Sign up at the Information Counter to attend.
- Heather Murzyn and Jilean Pink are to be received into membership soon. If you have any comments, please contact Pastor James.
- **Growth Groups begin** Thursday and Friday **June 8 & 9.** Please sign up online or at the Information Counter to attend one convenient to you.
- Clarks Summit University's **Lyfe Women's Conference is June 2-3.** Contact Sherrill or Becky for more information.
- Join us for our **Father's Day picnic** following the morning service on **June 18.** The church will provide the burgers and hotdogs and you may bring sides and/or desserts.
- 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.

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!