

# *From Mourning to Ministry*

Matthew 14:13-21

Big Idea: Jesus asked the impossible to test the disciples faith. When faced with challenges, do we focus on our limitations or turn to Him? Let's offer what we have, trust God with the results, and stay connected to Jesus. He can multiply our small offerings to impact many.

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Day 1: Compassion in  
the Midst of Sorrow

Reading:  
Matthew 14:13-14

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Jesus had just received news of John the Baptist's death, yet He responded with compassion to the crowds seeking Him. Reflect on times when you've faced personal struggles. How can you follow Jesus' example and show compassion to others even in your own moments of grief? Consider ways you can minister to someone in need today, trusting God to work through you despite your circumstances.

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Day 2: Trusting God  
with Our Limited  
Resources

Reading:  
John 6:5-13

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The disciples saw only scarcity, but Jesus saw opportunity for God's abundance. What areas of your life feel inadequate or limited? Bring these before God in prayer, offering what you have like the boy with five loaves and two fish. Ask God to multiply your efforts and resources for His glory, trusting that He can do immeasurably more than we can imagine.

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Day 3: Overcoming  
Doubt with Faith

Reading:  
Matthew 14:22-33

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Peter's walk on water demonstrates both bold faith and human doubt. In what areas of your life is God calling you to "step out of the boat"? Identify fears or doubts holding you back. Pray for the courage to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, trusting Him even when circumstances seem impossible. Remember, Jesus is always ready to catch you if you falter.

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Day 4: God's Provision  
in Desolate Places

Reading:  
Exodus 16:1-18

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Just as God provided manna in the wilderness, He can meet our needs in life's barren seasons. Reflect on times when you've felt spiritually or emotionally depleted. How has God sustained you? Make a list of ways God has provided for you, even in small ways. Let this reminder strengthen your faith in His constant care and presence.

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Day 5: Multiplying  
Our Gift for God's  
Kingdom

Reading:  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15

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God can take our humble offerings and use them for great impact. What gifts, talents, or resources has God entrusted to you? Consider how you might be holding back out of fear or feelings of inadequacy. Pray for guidance on how to use your unique abilities to serve others and glorify God. Remember, it's not about the size of your gift, but your willingness to offer it wholeheartedly to God.

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