

When God takes you where you don't want to go

Mark 6:30-52

Trinity Baptist Church

April, 26, 2026

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

This morning we are going to look into scripture, as we do. Would you join me in prayer that the Lord will soften our hearts to hear His truth and be refreshed by His power. We, here at Trinity, have had quite the roller coaster ride over the last year. As I have prayed over and prepared for this morning I have to be honest my heart has been heavy with the gravity of what I believe the Lord has for us today.

This morning my prayer is that the Lord would breathe life into our church, that He would bring peace to our hearts and place the desire to trust and press into His will no matter the direction he calls us to go!

What is the back story to where we are?

1. We see in Mark 6:30 that the Apostles return and tell Jesus all they had done.
 - a. What exactly is it that they have been doing?
 - i. In Mark 6:7-13 Jesus sends them out 2 by 2 with authority over unclean spirits. They were sent out to heal the sick. They were sent out to teach the good news and of why there must be repentance.
 - b. They were out doing ministry, and they were tired.
2. What is the main mission of Trinity Baptist Church?
 - a. We exist to become a gospel centered community, redeeming brokenness through hope in Jesus Christ.
 - b. This is the vision that Christ has brought to our church and the calling that we have been given in our community. Some days this comes easy, some days dealing with brokenness hurts and it is exhausting. Some days it makes you want to say “just let someone else deal with this Lord, I'm too tired”.
3. During this time they had emotional roller coasters daily. At

times they saw amazing victories under the authority of Jesus that had been given to them, and yet other times they saw rejection and heart break due to the brokenness of the sinful world.

a. They had been worn down by the very thing they were sent by Jesus to do.

i. Maybe this morning you are worn down as well.

b. Jesus sees that they are worn and tired and He calls them to go to a desolate place and seek for rest in the Father.

4. The text goes as far as to say that they did not even have time to eat because of the amount of interactions they were going through.

Jesus is fully aware at this point of the physical, mental and spiritual condition of the apostles. I assure you, today He is just as aware of your condition as well...

Point #1-In our exhaustion, Christ proves His purpose (v.33-44)

1. Remember the reason for the boat ride was to get to a desolate place, away from people... like far far away from

people.

- a. Have you ever reached that place? Where you just want to get away from everyone?
- b. They arrive at the other side (remember they have to row across, they don't have a motor boat, and they are already tired) as soon as they land the boat, the crowd is back and Jesus goes to work teaching them out of compassion.
- c. Notice in verse 35, the apostles try to remind Jesus of what their plan was in coming to that side of the sea in the first place.
- d. They tell Jesus how desolate the location is and that He should send the crowd away to care for themselves.
 - i. Jesus responds in a way that He often does when we try to tell Him about our plans, by telling us to do what He wants instead...
- e. Look in verse 37 at the apostle's response.
 - i. I wish I could but I don't have enough money.
 - ii. Have you ever sounded like that? God I wish I could serve you, but I'm too busy, I don't have enough money, I don't have enough talent...etc...
- f. Jesus then, in this very moment, gives us our first point for this morning...
- g. Look at what you have to offer, in all of your

exhaustion, in all of your struggle, in all of your abundance or lacking... now watch what I can do with it.

- h. In our Exhaustion, Christ will prove His purpose.
 - i. When we reach the end of our ability and plan, then Christ shows up and reveals His purpose for our life, to bring Glory to the Father through the conduit of our own life.

Point #2- In our obedience, Christ provides beyond expectation. (v.41-46)

1. Remember up to this point what all has taken place.
 - a. The Apostles have just returned from mission that was both physically and mentally exhausting
 - b. They have rowed a boat 8 miles across the sea
 - c. They have ministered to a ballpark number of 18,000 people
 - d. And now Jesus says ok you 12, go feed them...
 - i. Just to be honest, this is a miracle in and of itself, in ministry today you can't get help to show up if they went to bed an hour late the night before much less if they had gone through all that the 12 just did.
2. In the midst of all they have done, the apostles submit to Christ and they do as He asked them to.

- a. Because of their obedience they were able to see something amazing happen!
 - i. Yet for some reason they were not moved by the power of Jesus in this moment.
 - ii. How many times in the last year have we seen amazing things happen in our church that can only be described as the power of Jesus, and the very next Sunday we are back to being upset or discouraged because of the circumstances around us?
3. At this moment we see Jesus giving our 2nd point for this morning.
 - a. In our obedience, Christ provides beyond expectation.
4. Look at verse 43.
 - a. And they took up 12 baskets full of bread and fish.
 - b. How many apostles were there serving with Jesus? 12!
5. Now, look back up at verse 31.
 - a. And many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.
6. Do y'all see how good Jesus is here?
 - a. In striving in obedience the 12 have reached exhaustion and hunger and now they Lord has provided a reminder of their calling by showing them how to minister as well as providing for their physical needs in an over abundance of a full basket

of food for each man!

7. Obedience is hard, but Christ will always sustain and strengthen you to fulfill what He has called you to, whether you have a full time pastor or not.

Point #3- in our struggle, Christ desires our Faith, not our awe (v.45-52)

1. Verse 45 blows my mind!
 - a. They are begging for rest. This has been an insane day! Yet Jesus doesn't tell them ok guys call it a night and get some sleep. NOPE!
 - b. Immediately Jesus tells them to row back to the other side of the sea!!! That is another 8 miles!
 - c. Here is what really gets me, Jesus dismisses the crowd and goes to rest with the Father.
2. Jesus sees that they are struggling in the boat at dusk, then by the time he walks, HE WALKS!! To them it is somewhere between 3 and 6 am. He allowed them to struggle all night.
3. Can I be honest for a moment?
 - a. I have had moments while preparing for this morning where I feel like Trinity Baptist church of Mt. Pleasant Texas is in that boat and it is about

1:00 am and we have been rowing and paddling and striving to get to where God called us to go.

- b. And guess what! That is exactly what He wants us to do!
4. It is easy to look at this text and criticize the apostles and say why are you struggling so hard, why this or why that. But the truth of the matter is, they were doing exactly what Jesus told them to do! Sometimes going through the storm is by design. Sometimes Jesus allows the struggle for a reason.
5. Verse 48 says He meant to pass by them. I could preach a full sermon on just that part but that isn't our focus this morning. However on a quick note here is what you need to remember. When you are chugging along doing the Lord's Work and fulfilling what Jesus called you to do, don't forget that the end goal is not to accomplish the work, the end goal is to be with Jesus .
 - a. See, in verse 49 they see Jesus and are scared because they think he is a ghost.
 - b. In their mind Jesus is far behind them and has no ability to rescue them from the struggle that He has led them into.
 - i. Kind of like how some days we think that we are so far out there that there is no way Jesus is going to show up. And then He does.
 - c. Jesus cries out and tells the "do not be afraid it is I"

and He gets into the boat and the wind ceased, and they were utterly astounded.

- d. They were in awe of the fact that He walked on the water, that He could calm the wind. They were amazed.
6. Right here is where we see our 3rd and final point for this morning.
- a. In our struggle, Christ desires our faith, not our awe
 - b. In the midst of all that the apostles have seen up to this point, seeing Jesus walk on water and stop wind amazed them. But why? He had given them the ability to cast out spirits and heal the sick, He had used 5 loaves and 2 fish to feed 18,000 people and still give a full basket to each of them why did they not live in awe at all times, why did this produce amazement and not faith to trust that Jesus can do all things.
 - c. See there is the ability to have awe about something and not have faith in it.
 - i. I am amazed and awe struck that a person can jump from an airplane 10,000 feet in the air and land safely on the ground using only a few strings and some cloth made from the same stuff as a beach canopy that rips if the wind is too strong. That gives me awe and I love to watch it happen! But, that does not give me faith to go and do the act

of jumping out of the airplane strapped to some strings and cloth....

- d. Jesus allows us to be in the midst of struggle so that He can get to the core of our heart and produce in us a lasting faith that will ultimately lead to dedication (that we will talk about next week) so deep that in every moment of our life, the Father receives glory.
7. This portion of scripture ends with a hard truth and a statement that is hard for me to swallow.
- a. They did not understand about the loaves and fish because their hearts were hardened.
 - b. They had seen amazing things that Jesus had done, they had done amazing things through the power of Jesus, but they missed the point that Jesus was making to them. That Faith in Him alone is the sustaining substance in the midst of struggle and exhaustion.

Closing

So today, church, it is my honest belief that just like the apostles in this text. Being tired, longing for rest, looking for solitude and hoping for the chance to not carry someone else's burden.... Jesus has

brought us to a place that we did not want to go. He has placed us in a position where Faith and trust in Jesus alone is His purpose for this church, and that through that purpose His provision for Leadership, for rest, for spiritual growth and endurance to press on will be given abundantly when we are obedient to whatever he calls us to next. No matter the struggle or the momentary affliction that we may face knowing that He is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. My prayer this morning is that as we press on as a body of believer, we can look up, see all that Jesus is doing and have our hearts softened by his grace and not hardened by focussing on the struggle. That this time produces a lasting faith that leads to the glory of the Father.