Grow Group

5 Expressions of Love

**Lesson #5 - Love Helps Others**

**Story: Mt.14:13-21**

* **Tell the story, then re-tell it again by going around the room having each person give a sound bite of the story.**

By looking at the verses preceding this story, we notice a couple major events that could have had an adverse effect on Jesus.

**Q1.** What happened in **Mt.13:54-58**?

**Q2.** What happened in **Mt.14:1-12**? Who was John in relationship to Jesus?

**Q3.** How would you feel if these things happened to you?

**Q4.** According to **vs.13**, how did it appear Jesus was going to deal with these back to back negative situations?

**Q5.** According to **vs.14**, what motivated Jesus to heal & feed the people?

**Q6.** Looking at **vs.15-16**, discuss the difference, not just in method, but in attitude between the way the disciples wanted to deal with the needs of the people as opposed to the way Jesus did deal with the needs of the people. Have you ever found yourself acting like the disciples?

**Q7.** Look up the following passages to help us understand the secret to helping others even when people hurt us?

* **Mt.12:46-50** Where should we place family in relationship to doing God’s will?
* **Phil.2:3-8** - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What does **Eph.6:10-18** encourage us to do?
  + Each piece of the armor is a revelation of truth that we must allow to be our foundation in which we live by.

**Ex.** Righteousness is knowing that you are right with God based on His grace

not your works. Don’t let the devil tell you otherwise.

* Jesus said in, that “we must be wise and serpents and harmless as doves.”

**Q.8** Back to our story in Mt.14, why did the disciples think they couldn’t help the people?

**Q.9** What can we take away from how we should think when Jesus asks us to help others?

* Discuss the things we can do vs. the things we can’t.

**Q.10** What boundaries should we set when thinking of helping others so that we don’t become enablers to a chronic need?

* **Jesus said in Mt 10:16,** *"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.”*

**Conclude**

As a group, think of ways we can we demonstrate the love of God to people in a very practical & loving way?

* Clean a house
* Serve in a soup kitchen
* Take up a love offering/food hamper to bless a needy family
* Take hot chocolate to the street people
* Backpacks for Building Hope
* Pray for the sick
* Visit a Senior’s home (Christmas caroling)