

Sunday 22 March 2020 – Sermon notes for FISH HOEK METHODIST

“Jesus in the midst of our Crisis.”

Key Scripture Passage: Matthew 14

Narrative 1 – The impact of John’s death

“John’s disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.” – Matthew 14:12

☞ Who do we turn to in the midst of our crisis?

*“As long as Jesus is one of many options for you, he is really no option.
As long as you can carry your burdens alone, you don’t need a burden bearer.
As long as your situation brings you no grief, you will receive no comfort.
As long as you can take him or leave him, you might as well leave him, because
Jesus won’t be taken half-heartedly.” - Max Lucado*

Narrative 2 – Feeding of the 5000

Matthew 14:13 – “When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.”

i. Jesus needed to grieve alone?

How do you handle your own grief?

ii. Jesus needed guidance from his Father?

“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.” (14:14)

What does the Feeding of the 5000 mean for you?

i. Is it just a Miracle and that is it?

- ii. Could it speak of a bigger Sacrament?
- “I AM the BREAD of LIFE.” (John 6)
- iii. A lesson in loving your neighbour and caring for each other?

Stan Duncan - "Which is actually the greater miracle: for Jesus to change those few loaves into an abundance of loaves, or for Jesus to change the hearts of the people there to teach them how to share?"

Narrative 3 – Jesus walks on the Water

- a. Latin word *navis* which means 'boat' or 'ship'. Boats are meant to sail and not remain moored to the harbour. What does this mean for us as a Church?
- b. Jesus calms our fears.

Matthew 14:26-27 – “When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

“Honestly facing your lack of sovereignty over your own life produces either anxiety or relief. Anxiety is God-forgetting. It is the result of thinking that life is on your shoulders, that it is your job to figure it all out and keep things in order.” — Paul David Tripp

- Philippians 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Amy B. Hunter - "God does not demand that I step out of airplanes (or boats) - But, like Peter, I can step forward, even if the ground beneath me is no more substantial than water."