



To Love Without Exhaustion

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Mark 6:30-44

The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

But he answered, “You give them something to eat.”

They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”
“How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”
When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”
Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

1 John 4:7

Dear beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

“What we need is to love without getting tired.”

- Mother Teresa

Mark 6:7-13

Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.
These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”
They went out and preached that people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

“Come with me to the wilderness-place apart.”

Mark 6:35-36

By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

Philippians 2:3

In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Mark 6:37

But he answered, “You give them something to eat.”

“This is our Father’s world. The Trinity — Father, Son, and Spirit are its Creator, Savior, and Sustaining-Superintendent — and humanity remains God’s project. We live in this Trinitarian-bathed world which, by His loving, wise design, is perfectly suited to finding Him and serving others. Divine intention is not in doubt. Of His telos we can be totally assured: One day Jesus will hand over the Kingdom to His Father and everything will be perfect. No more tears or pain—just the knowledge that God is God and that He has been right all along. He’s been working on our behalf from creation up to the new heavens and the new earth. Modeling our lives upon the Incarnate Christ, who lives and fills creation, we are invited to participation now in His life.”

“We exist to serve others and then die, just like our Founder.”

Mark 6:38

“How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”
When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”

Mark 6:39

Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass.

Mark 6:45-52

Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

“These words of Jesus, ‘Even as I have loved you, also love one another,’ should be not only a light to us, but they should also be a flame consuming the selfishness that prevents the growth of holiness. Jesus ‘loved us to the end,’ to the very limit of love: the cross. This love must come from within, from our union with Christ. Loving must be as normal to us as living and breathing, day after day until our death.”

- Mother Teresa