

100 days with Jesus

Group Study No: 9

Mark 6:45-51

Introduction

The thing about Jesus, is that there is more than one thing about him.

Firstly, there is his humanity. He is made out of ordinary human flesh, he had a normal human childhood that was shared with brothers and sisters, and he shares our human temptations, hungers and struggles. All of this points to the idea that he fully understands us.

Secondly, is the other worldly, mysterious, impossible to understand, slightly scary stuff which we often don't relate to that well. Yet this is the side, or aspect of Jesus, that we see in this story. Jesus comes from another place,

a creature of eternity, the Living Word and Son of God. Every now and again, he shows us that too.

Discussion

1. Do you like water, boats sailing and all that stuff or are you a land lover?
2. V45 Why do you think Jesus makes the disciples get into the boat, whilst he himself goes up the mountain to pray? You can get more insight by looking at the parallel story in John 6:14-15.
3. Do you find it easiest to pray during the intercessions at church, in a small group, or on your own?
4. In v47-48 we see the disciples straining at the oars whilst Jesus is nowhere to be seen. Have you felt like that yourself recently?
5. V48 says that whilst he was up on the mountainside praying, Jesus saw that his disciples were straining against the oars. What encouragement does this give you?

6. Why do you think Jesus doesn't go to them straightaway?

7. Can you think of any occasions when Jesus has come to you in the middle of a crisis?

8. What is the most important thing you have learned from this passage?

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
I am straining at the oars.
Life is hard work,
I am spiritually tired
And my arms ache.
Can you see me?
Walk towards me
And climb into my boat.
Amen.