

Compassionate Giving

TEXT: MATTHEW 14:13-21

- **Believe it or not, God is not dependent on us. He can do His work without us but He chooses not to.**
- **His compassionate nature brings us into His plan.**

MATTHEW 14:13-21

Jesus was a man of compassion. In this short passage, He demonstrated His compassion in the ordinary routines of life.

1. When He heard about the death of John the Baptist he went to a deserted place by Himself.
2. When the multitudes heard they followed Him. He didn't get upset, He was moved with compassion and He healed their sick.
3. When it was evening, the multitudes were hungry so He provided for them.

Too often our response to the needs is to:

- Dismiss the people as the disciples planned; Shirk responsibility
- Jesus wants to work through His people, not apart from His people
- Distributing the food was the disciples responsibility.
- Despair---all we have is these little bit of resources.

Our response to the needs should be to:

- Lord, you have many resources here in the lives of your people. Would you move on their hearts to release what you own in their lives?
- Give from what you do have, not from what you wish you had.
- After feeding the multitudes, they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.
- There was one basket for each of the twelve disciples. This was to remind them that when the LORD provides, He does so in abundance.