ElevenNineteen

February Memory Verse

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

February Big Picture Question

What makes Jesus different?

Jesus is God's One and only Son.

*Jesus turned a few pieces of food into enough to feed thousands of people. *

Jesus has control over water, wind and waves.

Jesus loves and cares more about people than tradition.

Day One

14:1-12

Discussion questions:

- What do you imagine people thought about John the Baptist based on this story?
- What kind of ruler does Herod seem like?

Quiz yourself:

- Why was John in prison?
- Who ordered John's death?

Day Two

14:13-21

Discussion questions:

- How would you feel as a disciple if Jesus told you to feed the people?
- What do you imagine it was like to witness this miracle?

Quiz Yourself:

- How much food did the people start with?
- How many baskets full did they have leftover?

Day Three

14:22-33

Discussion Questions:

- Imagine you are Peter in this story. What things might you be feeling as it progresses?
- Why do you think this act made the disciples worship Jesus?

Quiz Yourself:

- What time of day did Jesus approach the disciples on the lake?
- What caused Peter to be frightened?

Day Four

14:34-15:31

Important to Know:

15:3-5 talk about the practice of Corban. When something was declared "Corban" it was set aside and reserved for God. Now, it was also customary in the Jewish culture for children to provide financially for their parents once they had reached a certain age. Jesus is calling out the religious leaders for exploiting a "loophole" where they would say to their parents, "Well, I can't give you any money ever because everything I was going to give to you I decided to give to God instead."

Discussion Questions:

- Pay attention to 14:34-36 and 15:29-31. How might these small, similar bookends hope to influence how we read the stories in between them?
- What about the Canaanite woman's response demonstrated great faith?

Quiz Yourself:

- How many times is food mentioned in these stories?
- Where do the things that come out of our mouth come from?

Day Five

15:32-39

Discussion Questions:

- What are the similarities/differences between this story and 14:13-21? What might we learn from that?
- What do you imagine the disciples would be thinking after seeing another miraculous feeding?

Quiz Yourself:

- How much food did the people start with?
- How many baskets did they have leftover?