More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd18x2017

Text: Matthew 14:13-21

13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. 15 When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." 16 Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." 17 They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." 18 And he said, "Bring them here to me." 19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 20 And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. 21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Math - I/S, Body - I, Music - I/S, People - I

| Smarts | Images in the text/ interesting exegesis | Illustrations | SFX |
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| Word - Verbal/Linguistic | splargchzomai - gut wrenching - may indicate the entrails pulled out and thrown aside when performing a sacrifice Healed - strengthening the weak - root of healed (therapy) contrasting stories between Herod's feast and Jesus' feeding | | |
| Eye - Visual/Spatial | a lonely place vs. Herod's palace | Some lonely places: grief, despair, heartache, frustration, depression, futility, hopelessness Self Contrast between the | Consolation vs. Desolation as per St. Ignatius (I put this here for the spatial relationship that each state implies; consolation = close to God, where you find yourself, |

| | | two: It's like switching channels from the Kardashians to a news report on immigrant children stranded at the border. People | etc.) |
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| Math - Logical/Mathematical D2 | The massive crowd recalls the actions of others of the time who gathered armies in the wilderness in the hope of repeating the liberation of the land under Joshua of old. Is this a new Joshua | Bruce Malina, Social Science Commentary on The Synoptic Gospels, Page 81; comments that: "A crowd of five thousand males would have been larger than the entire population of all but a handful of the very largest urban settlements. Matthew's image is that of a whole city in Jesus' entourage, whom Jesus nourishes out of compassion." | As a sfx for this story and intelligence, you could work out the math for how much bread would be needed to feed this many people. See the Math smart Illustration from last week for a good starting point! |
| Body - Kinesthetic MWD | dietary laws - not only what you eat but with whom Jesus is challenging this Take that bread, and you're taking into yourself not just whatever was in the field where the wheat was grown and in the kitchen when it was baked, but also what was on the hands of every other person in that crowd. | There is a cartoon somewhere of people questioning the content of the bread and fish - I bet the googler can find it!! Done. But it's more People Smart, I think. | |
| Musical D2 | | old Johnny Cash song, "No Earthly Good" - "you're so heavenly minded, you're no earthly good." Third verse: The gospel ain't gospel until it is spread | |

| | | But how can you share it where you've got your head There's hands that reach out for a hand if you would So heavenly minded, you're no earthly good | |
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| Natural | what is valuable in the wilderness? Mineral rights? | Food scarcity was not just local pockets but rampant in the world in which Jesus moved. | |
| People - Interpersonal MWD | There are no "extras" vis people but food? no problem | The disciples assume (or hope) that the village markets will be able to cope with crowds of five thousand plus. Contrary to Jesus' teaching, they look first to the imperial economy to supply the need, rather than to God (6:25-34). [p. 306] Eugene Boring, Matthew, The New Interpreter's Bible How often are our prayers asking God to bless our plans, rather than putting ourselves at God's disposal? Matthew has an emphasis that being disciples means more than just being learners. It also means being workers. | This week try to be more aware of people's needs in your community (not your home) and what resources your church has that could help meet their need. If you find yourself thinking, "But what is our little bit compared to such a big problem?" then you are in the disciples' shoes, and maybe on the verge of having God do something awesome in your midst! Give people a page to write their ideas on to bring back next week. |
| Self - Intrapersonal | Jesus is in the lonely place and he is filled with compassion for us | Note the difference between "deserted place" and "lonely place." Introverts will jump at the difference. Lonely = bad, deserted = good. | What if the mantra of Jesus' followers were, "The place of abundance is here"? How would that change everything? The crowds pursue Jesus on foot. They are dogged in their search for him. What have you pursued with such diligence and persistence? Have you ever sought Jesus like the |

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| | crowds? |
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