

Summary of 1/11/09 Message on Matthew 14

Main Point: Jesus shows us with His life how to manage our difficult times.

Come to: In the dark days of a broken heart - of grief - of guilt - of no answers, He comes to the Father.

• 14:13 "As soon as Jesus heard the news (about the death of John the Baptist), he went off by himself in a boat to a remote area to be alone (with the Father)." 14:23 "Afterward he went up into the hills by himself to pray."

Hand over: In the time of need, He hands over to the Father what is in His hands.

• But Jesus replied, "That isn't necessary—you feed them."
"Impossible! We have only five loaves and two fish... **Jesus took** the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven and asked god's blessing on the food...and gave it to the people...and all ate as much as they wanted." • It was a little boy's lunch. He handed it over to Jesus and Jesus multiplied it. John 6:9

• God has always placed something in our hand—in our life. He multiplies what we have.

We are to look for what we have, then turn it over to the Lord to multiply it.

Step out: In the days of danger He walks over the top of circumstances.

• MT 14:25 "Meanwhile, the **disciples were in trouble**, far away from land, for a strong wind had risen and they were fighting heavy waves. About three o'clock in the morning, **Jesus came to them, walking on the water.**"

• Nothing is impossible for God. There is always a way in Jesus to walk over the top of our circumstances.

• God has given us every good gift - everything needed for this life. It is accessed not by great personal effort but by asking God, trusting God, giving to God and stepping out in faith. He who seeks to save his life (keep ownership of his life) will lose it.

• PSALM 40 "I waited patiently for the Lord to help me and He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. **He set my feet on solid ground** and steadied me as I walked along. **He has given me a new song to sing.**"