

JULY 19, 2015

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



JEREMIAH 23:1-6

PSALM 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

EPHESIANS 2:13-18

MARK 6:30-34

REFLECTION

Imagine you've just gotten back from a mission trip with your youth group. You've had a great week helping people but you're physically and emotionally exhausted. You pull in the parking lot ready to get home for a shower and a serious nap when you see them: the people you helped. They were so inspired by your work, your faith, the example you set, that they've followed you home. Not only that, they've brought along their friends and relatives, 5,000 of them! That's the scenario that the Apostles face in today's Gospel. Last week we heard the story of Jesus sending them out to preach with nothing but the clothes on their backs. In today's Gospel they come back with sunburns and blisters and stories to tell, so Jesus invites them to come away with him to rest. The crowds have gathered and Jesus sees that they need him. He doesn't get back in the boat and go find another beach that's less crowded. He does what needs doing. He teaches them about the love God.



"TOUCH HIM"

DANIELLE ROSE
NCYC Unplugged

Listen to this heartfelt song by Danielle Rose about our weaknesses. Jesus reaches out to all in need, healing all our pain. He makes us whole. Do you know anyone in pain? Can you reach out to them and be Jesus to them?
www.youtube.com/watch?v=9k-x-LGZANk

ACTION

Do you know anyone who is like a sheep "without a shepherd"? Someone who is lost and needs a friend or a little guidance or encouragement? Reach out to that person this week. A smile or a conversation can be a great start.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- What would your reaction be if the scenario above actually took place?
- Think of a time in your life when you have been like a sheep without a shepherd. Did you turn to God? Why or why not?