**100 Days with Jesus**

**Study No. 9 Mark 6:45-51**

**Introduction**

The thing about Jesus is that there is more to him than meets the eye.

Firstly, there is his humanity. He is made out of ordinary human flesh, had a normal human childhood shared with brothers and sisters, shares in human temptations, hungers and struggles. All this points to the idea that he fully understands us.

Secondly, the other worldly, mysterious, impossible to understand, slightly scary stuff is what we often don’t relate to that well. Yet this is the side, or the aspect, of Jesus that we see in this story. Jesus comes from another place, is a creature of eternity, the living Word and the Son of God and every now and again he shows us that.

**Questions**

Read Mark 6:45-51

1. Do you like water, boats sailing and all that stuff or are you a land lover?
2. 6:45 Why do you think Jesus makes the disciples get into the boat, while he himself goes up the mountain to pray?
   1. You can get more insight into this by looking at the parallel story in John 6:14-15.
3. Do you find it easiest to pray during the intercessions in church, in a small group or on your own?
4. In 6:47-48 we see the disciples straining at the oars and Jesus is nowhere to be seen. Have you felt like that yourself recently?
5. 6:48 says that while he was up the mountain praying he saw his disciples straining against the oars. What encouragement does this verse give you?
6. Why do you think Jesus doesn’t go to them straight away?
7. Can you think of any occasions when Jesus has come to you in the middle of a crisis?
8. What is the most important thing you have learnt from this passage?

**Key question to finish: Who is God and how do we respond?**

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus

I am straining at the oars

Life is hard work

I am spiritually tired

And my arms ache

Can you see me

Walk towards me

And climb into my boat

Amen.

**Leaders notes**

3. This is potentially a tempting time because the crowd want to make him king. Perhaps he first gets the disciples out of the way of temptation then he goes up the mountain in order to humble himself before his Father.