### Matthew

## Chapter 14

1It was around this time that Herod (the ruler over that area) heard about Jesus.  
  
2And he said to his boys:  
  
 ‘This is really John the Immerser. He’s been raised from the dead, and this is why he can do such powerful things!’  
  
3He said this because Herod had arrested John and thrown him in prison due to things that [John had said about] his brother’s (Philip’s) wife.  
  
4For, because John had told him that he had broken the Law by taking her, 5[Herod] wanted to kill him. [Yet, he couldn’t], because he was afraid of the people, since they considered [John] to be a Prophet.  
  
6However, at Herod’s birthday party, the daughter of Herodias [came out and] danced before him, and this pleased Herod so much 7that he promised with an oath to give her anything that she asked.  
  
8So, (with her mother’s coaching) she said:  
  
 ‘Then, give me the head of John the Immerser on a platter!’  
  
9Well, the king was really saddened by this, but because he had given his word (and because of those who were eating at the table with him), [Herod] gave the command 10to have John beheaded in prison. 11Then, when his head was brought in on a platter, he gave it to the young girl, who took it to her mother.  
  
12Well, afterwards, [John’s] disciples went to get his body and buried it, then they reported everything that had happened, to Jesus. 13And when Jesus heard about this, he got into a boat to find a quiet place where he could be alone.  
  
However, the crowds noticed [where he was going] and they followed him on foot from the towns. 14So when he got to that place, he saw a huge crowd of people. And because he felt sorry for them, he went on to heal their sick.  
  
  
  
15Then later that evening, [Jesus’] disciples came to him and said:  
  
 ‘This is a very remote place and it’s getting late, so we should send the crowds off into the villages around here so they can buy something to eat!’  
  
16But Jesus said to them:  
  
 ‘They don’t have to go… Why don’t you give them something to eat?’  
  
17And [the disciples] answered:  
  
 ‘But all we have is just five loaves [of bread] and two fish!’  
  
18So Jesus told them:  
  
 ‘Bring them to me.’  
  
19Then he told the crowd to lie down on the grass, and he took the five loaves and two fish, and after looking into the sky, he spoke a blessing, and he started breaking the bread and handing it to the disciples, who then passed it out to the crowd…  
  
20And everyone ate until they were full!  
  
Well, when they picked up the scraps, they found that there were 12 baskets full of leftovers. 21Yet there were about 5,000 men (as well as many women and children) that ate.  
  
22Then [Jesus] dismissed the crowd and he told his disciples to take the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side [of the sea]. 23And after most of the people had left, he went up the mountain to a private spot where he could pray. So, although it was getting dark, he stayed there all alone.  
  
  
  
24Meanwhile, the boat [that the Apostles were rowing] had gotten a long way from land. But they’d been fighting the waves, because there was [a strong] wind blowing against them. 25And then, sometime just before sunrise, [Jesus] came to them, walking across the sea.  
  
26Well when they saw him walking on the water, the disciples were terrified and they shouted:  
  
 ‘It’s a vision!’  
  
And they started screaming out of fear.  
  
27But right away, Jesus told them:  
  
 ‘Be brave… Don’t be afraid, it’s me!’  
  
28Then Peter said:  
  
 ‘Lord! If it’s you, then command me to come out to you on top of the water!’  
  
29So [Jesus] said:  
  
 ‘Then come on!’  
  
Well, Peter got out of the boat and started walking across the water towards Jesus. 30But then he got distracted by the windstorm and got frightened… And he started to sink, so he shouted:  
  
 ‘Lord, please save me!’  
  
31Then Jesus immediately reached out his hand and grabbed him, and he said:  
  
 ‘O you with so little faith! Why did you start to doubt?’  
  
32Well, after they both got into the boat, the windstorm subsided, 33and the others in the boat all bowed low before him and said:  
  
 ‘You truly are the Son of The God!’  
  
34Then, after they had finished the crossing, they docked their boat at GenNesaret. 35And there, the people recognized him and sent word throughout the surrounding countryside, so they started bringing all those who weren’t doing well to him… 36They were all begging to just touch the fringes on his clothes.  
  
And all that touched them were made completely well.