

the HOME SHEET



I. CHECK-IN

- Check-in with each other. How is life? What is happening? How is everyone doing?
- Ask about last week's challenge about fighting fear by trusting in God's promises. What reflections do you have?

II. PRAYER

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

III. CHALLENGE

One of the ways we overcome "The Big Conundrum" is by doing kingdom work.

Next time you notice something that doesn't align with the kingdom of God, draw close to God in prayer, considering how to take action and respond, then take an action step to help your community better reflect the Kingdom of God.

Be prepared to share about this next week.

IV. SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:13-21: When Jesus heard about John the Baptist's death, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said to them. "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to me." He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

V. DISCUSSION

- What stands out to you in this scripture?
- What spiritual disciplines (things that bring us closer to God) do you practice
- What kind of person has practicing spiritual disciplines inspired you to become?
- In Ornella's story, she mentioned that people praying and never responding with action led to a lot of pain. What things can you do to become a person of action?
- What is at stake if we never act in the midst of suffering? And should we care? Why?
- What does all of this have to do with politics?