### Concordia Seminary - Saint Louis

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Table Talk: Family Devotions

Resources for Ministry

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# 032. Feeding the Sheep

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# TABLE TALK

## Feeding the Sheep

#### Prepare:

As one person lights a candle, the family reads together: (adapted from Psalm 23)

- C: The LORD is our shepherd;
- R: surely goodness and mercy shall follow us.
- C: He prepares a table before us, he anoints our head with oil;
- R: surely goodness and mercy shall follow us.

## Read: Mark 6:30-44 (ESV)

30 The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. 31 And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32 And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. 35 And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. 36 Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" 38 And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." 39 Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. 41 And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44 And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men. And he went about among the villages teaching.

#### Reflect

Jesus has compassion on the hungry and feeds them. He continues to feed his sheep today.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (Mark 6:30-44) means for you as a family.

Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.

#### Pray:

The head of the household prays:

Almighty Father, you have provided the Good Shepherd to care for us as your sheep. Thank you for caring for us, and use us to show your compassion to the hungry. In Jesus's name, amen.