
Matthew Chapter 14

☐ 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. What is the scariest thing that has ever happened to you? Describe it in detail. What made it so scary?

- b. Describe the funniest thing that has ever happened to you. Why did you think it was so funny?

☐ 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

In this chapter Herod had John the Baptist beheaded. When Jesus heard about what happened to His cousin he left for a remote area so that He could be alone.

Why do you think Jesus wanted to be alone? Do you think it reminded Him of the prophecies that foretold that He would be imprisoned and killed one day soon as the well? Why/why not?

What do you do when you get bad news? Do you ever want to be alone? Where do you go? What do you do to deal with difficult or sad situations? Do you feel like you could use help in learning to deal with difficulties? Why?

Even though Jesus was probably sad and just wanted to be alone the crowds followed Him and brought all their friends who needed healing. Are you surprised that Jesus unselfishly gave up His alone time to help others? Why/why not?

Are you aware of any times when your parents, youth leaders or pastor have given up personal time or things they really wanted to do in order to help you in some way or be with you? Explain. How often have you thanked the adults that help you in your life for all they do for you?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

Choose one or two:

- a. Think about all the difficult times you have been through in your life. Try to determine if you could benefit from a good book or website on dealing with pain and difficult situations. Ask your pastor and youth leaders for good resources that you could use when you feel like you need help.
- b. Visit: <http://livingiths.org/resources/at-risk-help> and browse the topics there so that you are familiar with the help provided so that you can be prepared to help your friends should they ever need it.

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

- a. Make a prayer list and pray for the people you know that are suffering.
- b. Remember to put down situations that you are dealing with as well.
- c. Have special prayer for your pastor, Sabbath School leaders, Pathfinder leaders and other youth leaders as well. Pray that they will have people that they can talk to when they are going through difficult times as well.
- d. Thank Jesus for always being there for you and pray for Him to have comfort as He continues to deal with the Great Controversy that is obviously very painful for Him. He never wanted the world to turn out like this.

5. Outreach Idea

Take some time to write a few thank you notes to the important adults in your life that have helped you in some way. As you write your notes be sure to include as many important details as you can remember about why their help was so important to you.