

1. **Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word
2. **Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word
3. **Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions without other outside sources

Lesson Seventeen: Matthew 14:1–36

January 31, 2007

1. What reports do you think Herod was hearing about Jesus? Be thorough.

2. Do you think it was Herod's idea to kill John the Baptist? Give thorough reasons from verses 1–12 on why or why not.

3. a) What lesson on making oaths do you learn from verses 6–12?

b) What promise or oath have you made that was foolish, and did you follow through?

4. a) How did Jesus respond to the news of John the Baptist?

b) What happened at Jesus' solitary place and how did Jesus respond?

c) Share what you've done when interrupted at an inconvenient time.

5. a) What did the disciples focus upon when Jesus told them to give the crowd something to eat in verse 16?

- b) Share a time when your focus was like the disciples at a command from Jesus? What did you do and what was the outcome?
6. In your own words, describe the details of the miracle of feeding the 5,000 and what it looked like to the disciples and people.
7. a) What did Jesus do after feeding the 5,000 according to verses 22–23?
- b) What do you learn about Jesus here?
8. a) What was courageous about Peter in verses 25–31?
- b) Why do you think Peter started to sink?
- c) What lesson do you learn from this when you're in a stormy time?

Going Deeper:

9. a) What was the response of the disciples when the storm calmed?
- b) What is your response to Jesus at this time?
- c) Who is Jesus to you? Be thorough.