

THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

¹³ "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. ¹⁴ BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT.
MATTHEW 7:13-14

es-sen-tials (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

The Gospel of Mark A BIBLE STUDY

SESSION SIX

Mark 6:1-6:56

Questions for Session Six

1. Why would a denomination, convention, or congregation *not* allow a pastor to be appointed, assigned, or called to his/her *home* church? *Did you know your pastor when...?*
2. Jesus gave the disciples authority and sent them out. These two acts and their first-hand knowledge of Jesus made them apostles. Why did Jesus teach the disciples to take no provisions or money with them? Why did Jesus want the disciples to remain in a home—*with the same family*—during their stay in one location?
3. What should the disciples' reactions be to them, who do not want to welcome them in or to listen to their Good News? How can this be applied to your life here in the twenty-first century?

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4. Who did Herod think Jesus was? What information did he have at his disposal to make such an important decision regarding Jesus and his future? How do you think he formed his opinion?

5. What had John the Baptist done to infuriate King Herod? Once you have read the passage, describe how the king repaid him.

6. Did Herod seem to be getting in over his head with his promise to the daughter of Herodias? How did King Herod react to her request? How do we sometimes promise more than we can or should deliver?

7. Why did Jesus once again choose to go to a quiet place in v. 31? Why do you suppose Jesus and his disciples tried to get away? How did the crowds of people arrive at the “solitary place” ahead of Jesus and his disciples?

8. What did Jesus do after he directed the disciples to have the people seated in groups? What was the reaction of the crowd? Were they satisfied with the meal that Jesus provided for them?

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9. What did Jesus do after feeding the crowds of people? Why do you suppose he decided to engage in this activity after feeding the crowd? Why is this kind of activity *absolutely necessary* for our personal development and growth on our spiritual journeys?

10. *Re-read* v. 52. The author states that the disciples' hearts were hardened. What do you suppose he meant? How are our hearts hardened?

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