

Study Guide
The Kingdom Has Come
Matthew 14:1-21

Big Idea- Selfishness kills, but selflessness fills

1. Read Matthew 14:1-12. Discuss the selfish trends in Herod and the progression of where it led him. How does selfishness cause us to become impulsive and even fearful?
2. According to Matthew 14:10 and Luke 23:11, Herod was responsible for the deaths of John the Baptist and of Jesus. Discuss the concept that selfishness kills. How does it lead into a destructive vortex?
3. Read Matthew 14:13-21. Discuss what happens in the story
 - a. How does Jesus respond to the crowds?
 - b. How do the disciples want to respond?
 - c. How does God use the disciples to fulfill the needs of others?
4. Discuss the concept that the disciples were one with Jesus in the process. How can we be “in Christ” and thereby have access to the resources of God? What does that look like on a practical level?

Message Slides

Kingdom Has Come

Upside Down Kingdom

Big Idea: Selfishness kills, but selflessness fills.

Story #1 The Self-seeking Fox (v.1-12)

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard about the fame of Jesus, and he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist. He has been raised from the dead; that is why these miraculous powers are at work in him."

Fox image – include passage

Luke 13:32

And he said to them, "Go and tell that **fox**, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course.

Story #1 The Self-seeking Fox (v.1-12)

Flashback (v.3-5)

For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because John had been saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet.

Mark 6:20

"...for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly."

Story #1 The Self-seeking Fox (v.1-12)

Flashback (v.6-9)

But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company and pleased Herod, so that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter." And the king was sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he commanded it to be given.

Story #1 The Self-seeking Fox (v.1-12)

Flashback (v. 10-12)

He sent and had John beheaded in the prison, and his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. And his disciples came and took the body and buried it, and they went and told Jesus.

Story #1 The Self-seeking Fox (v.1-12)**Luke 23:8-11**

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate.

Story #2 – The Self-Sacrificing Lion (v. 13-14)

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

Story #2 – The Self-Sacrificing Lion (v. 15-16)

¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶But Jesus said, "They need not go away;

Image of Lion**Story #2 – The Self-Sacrificing Lion (v. 17-18)**

you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me."

1. *Jesus wants to involve you!*
2. *Admit that you are limited.*
3. *Accept that Jesus is unlimited.*

Story #2 – The Self-Sacrificing Lion (v. 19-21)

¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Big Idea: Selfishness kills, but selflessness fills.

How can I be the Lion?

>on mouse click<

Oneness

The disciples were ONE with Jesus in the entire process!