

Text: Matthew 14:1-36
Topics: Compassion, Faith, Power & Influence
Series: The Promised King

Monroe Bible Church
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Priority in God's Power

I. The Power of a Godless Person (1-12)

Herod demonstrates the priority of self-preservation in the use of His power.

II. The Power of God's Son (13-21)

Jesus demonstrates the priority of compassion in the use of His power.

III. The Priority in God's Power (22-36)

Jesus demonstrates the priority of cultivating faith while demonstrating compassion in the use of His power.

God's great invitation is to receive His love, return our faith, and show others both!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Give an example of power or influence exercised over you for good, and another example for bad. What were the outcomes?

2. Read Matthew 14:1-11. Herod was obviously an evil man. What areas of wrong thinking do you see in him? What did it lead him to do?

Name areas of power or influence you have over others?

What ways could you wrongly use that power or influence?

3. In Matthew 14:13-21 we see Jesus respond to the news of John's execution, then requests from a crowd, and a request from His disciples. What is most surprising to you about His responses?

When your needs and the needs of others conflict, how do you respond, and why? How could your response be unhealthy in God's eyes?

Rate your compassion toward others on a scale of 1 to 10. How do your demonstrations of compassion compare to your thoughts and feelings?

4. Why do you think Jesus did what He did in verses 22-23?

5. Read Matthew 14:24-33. What was the purpose of what Jesus did?

How does the purpose of Jesus here, and His compassion shown in verses 34-36, instruct you to use your power and influence?

6. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?