Also see Matthew 14:1-12

Admittedly, this is a strange tale. Which is why it seems to fit our theme – I bet even the disciples were scratching their heads over this story. So, what can we learn from it?

What does this campfire tale speak to the condition of human depravity, the sin that so easily entangles us? Some people would believe that sin today is different than sin in "Bible Times." Based on this story is that true?

Let's look closely at the text. But first, take a look at the chart and try to get your Herod's straight. Impossible, right?

Jesus is being confused with John – did they believe I reincarnation?

Why did John the Baptist call out Herod for his marriage to Herodias?

Were you ever criticized for "God Talk"?

Like, have you ever had someone become irritated or agitated with you for bringing up God in a conversation with them? Did they get defensive?

Why do you think this happened? Did this have more to do with you, the gospel, or the person you with whom you were sharing? Why?

Has someone's possible reaction ever prevented you from speaking about God in a conversation about conduct of character? Why?

Is that a way which we are trying to play it safe with the gospel? Finding some middle ground with the world and the kingdom? Why is this? What are we afraid of losing? Losing what? A friendship perhaps? What gain are you jeopardizing in the kingdom? what does mutual accountability look like?

Let's think about our own sin – is that easier or harder than thinking about someone else's?

What areas in your life do you feel irritated or agitated by the word of God? Does that agitation from guilt or conviction?

How does FRC balance Law and Grace? How do we address sin while still loving the sinner? Pray about that with each other.

