

Feeding 5000

I. Intro

- A. The feeding of the 5000 is recorded in all 4 gospels
- B. They travel across the sea of Galilee again
- C. What do you need to hear from this passage:
 - 1. That the disciples needed rest?
 - 2. That Jesus saw the needs of the people and had compassion for them?
 - 3. That a little boy gave his lunch, which was all he had?
 - 4. That Jesus took that little bit and miraculously provided?
 - 5. That there was more left over than there was to begin with?
- D. Im going to preach the entire story, the lessons you learn will speak to your situation.

II. Text

- A. 30-32: A Great crowd followed
- B. 33-38: Compassion of the crowd
 - 1. 200 Denari: 200 days wages for a common laborer
 - 2. You feed them...
 - 3. 5 loaves and 2 fishes
- C. 39-42: A Miraculous feeding
 - 1. In John's account:
 - 2. [Jhn 6:9 ESV] 9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?"
- D. 43-44: all were satisfied, and there were leftovers

III. Point

- A. A Massive Gathering
 - 1. Jesus and the disciples were trying to have some alone time and the crowds found them anyway.
 - a) Ministry and people are exhausting, but can motivation comes when compassion rises above.
 - b) Sometimes your needs will be temporarily on hold because the needs before you are great.
 - c) But don't neglect the rest for your souls
 - 2. Jesus took this opportunity to show His miraculous power, and show compassion over people seeking after him
 - 3. They were like sheep without a shepherd:
 - a) They were lost ones, following the next big thing
 - b) They were seen by Christ in their spiritual state, and they were seen by the disciples in their physical state.
 - c) But, Jesus is still preparing His disciples while He is ministering to the lost ones
 - (1) They had already seen so much
 - (2) Now they are witnessing a great miracle in meeting this physical need
 - 4. Jesus is showing His power over the physical...again
 - a) He had healed physical illness, and spiritual illnesses
 - b) He had calmed a storm
 - c) He had cast out demons
 - d) He had brought the dead back to life
 - e) And now He is feeding a mass of humanity with a peasants lunch
 - 5. There is also the uncomfortable truth:
 - a) Jesus allowed them to be on the boat in the storm
 - b) Jesus allowed Jairus's daughter to die, before raising her
 - c) John the Baptist did lose his physical life because he spoke the truth
 - 6. The physical is temporary, the Spiritual is eternal.
 - a) Jesus knows the whole story, the temporary difficulty
 - b) And the miraculous victory!

7. The fame of Christ caused people to look for him for what he would do for them, what miracle he would provide, but they didn't have know what they were missing.
 - a) Come after Jesus for whatever reason you have
 - b) But hang around long enough to allow your affections to stir and grow into a relationship.

B. An insurmountable Cost

1. Just as there is a great cost in being a follower of Christ, there was a great cost in providing for the physical needs of the mass of people.
2. More than 6 months wages would have been required to buy enough bread, and even then, no bread was available to buy.
 - a) The situation was dire
 - b) The people were not prepared, they had apparently dropped everything and started following after Jesus
 - c) Except 1 little boy, he packed a lunch:
 - (1) He could have been a responsible first born child...
 - (2) He could have had a mother that took really good care of him...
 - (3) He could have been on the way to do something else and need a lunch for the day...
 - (4) BUT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT WAS PREPARED!
3. Think about this:
 - a) The reason for the burden on the disciples and Jesus is due to the compassion of Christ
 - b) They could have sent them all away and been justified by:
 - (1) Blaming their lack of preparedness
 - (2) Referencing the cost
 - (3) IT WASN'T THE HIS PROBLEM TO SOLVE, BUT JESUS SOLVED THE PROBLEM ANYWAY!
4. Our Sin problem wasn't Jesus' problem
 - a) He had no sin, but took on our sin
 - b) He is the bread of life
 - c) He is the provider and the sustainer
 - d) And it comes from His compassion on us
5. We face an insurmountable cost because of our sin, and Christ became our sacrifice.
6. Let Jesus solve the real problem you have, that has already been paid, and that is offered to you today.

C. A Lesson in the leftovers

1. The leftovers provided a lesson to each of the disciples
2. They began this story wanting to send people away, and not wanting to spend the money needed to provide bread.
3. They ended the day with each collecting a basketful of scraps and leftovers, and each basket contained more food than was present in the beginning.
4. The lesson:
 - a) Jesus can take a small offering and multiply it to abundance
 - b) Jesus will provide in miraculous ways, for supernatural purposes
 - c) Don't waste anything.
 - (1) Any lesson
 - (2) Any opportunity
 - (3) Anything God provided
5. God can and will provide abundantly!
6. [Eph 3:14-21 ESV] 14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you,

being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

7. As Jesus broke bread and multiplied it for the masses, we break bread and receive today.

IV. Close

- A. The Lord's supper
- B. Let us be reminded of the sacrifice for our salvation.