

The Jesus We Never Knew
"The Bread of Life"
Mark 6:30-44

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

³²So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

³⁵By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. ³⁶Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

³⁷But he answered, "You give them something to eat."

They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

³⁸"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see."

When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."

³⁹Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²They all ate and were satisfied, ⁴³and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. ⁴⁴The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

Mark 6: 30 - 44 (NIV)

Mark 6:30-44

Questions for personal or small group study and reflection:

1. Compare and contrast the feast that Herod held in the previous verses (14-29) with the feast Jesus provided. What do these tell us about the reign of these 2 kings?
2. What are we giving God, even if it is something small, as He will use it to bless others/multiply it for His glory? Are we willing to give God what little we have so that He can do something with it? Why are we so hesitant? Why did Jesus want His disciples to feed the people?
3. What do you hunger for or long for in your life? What is spiritual hunger? Do you have a spiritual hunger that is not yet satisfied? Why do you think this is the case? In what ways/areas are you trying to find fulfillment in life?
4. What does "bread" represent to the people of God? What is this passage revealing about who Jesus is? What does it mean for Jesus to be the Bread of Life?
5. What may the Lord be saying to you as you meditate on Is. 55:1-2? What is it that you are feeding on? Are you feeding your flesh or are you feeding your soul? Are you being fed/satisfied by what God is giving you? Are you eating bread that feeds your soul and spirit?
6. How is your soul today? How is your spiritual life, quiet time, devotion/prayer life? Are you feeding on the living Word of God? Are you satisfied or running on empty & dry? Be honest with God and go to Him for His reviving and refreshing of your soul/spirit. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." What does it mean for Jesus to be our daily bread anyways? What does it mean for Him to satisfy all of our desires?