

Enough for All 2019-05-19

John 6:5-13

Lifting up His eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward Him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" 6 He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

7 Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?"

10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.

12 And when they had eaten their fill, He told His disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." 13 So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten.

Issue of impossibility depends upon perspective...ex. child or adult cake/math

- Feed 5000 calls Christians to live with divine/vertical not human/horizontal perspective.
 - Not parable on sharing (human perspective) but literal miracle:
 - Significant: only miracle beside resurrection in all 4 gospels.

Heal paralytic set scene for chapter 5 so is 5000...background for BoL discourse.

- Still many lessons especially about our inadequacy & Jesus' all-sufficiency.

John 6:2-6

Reasons crowd following Jesus were misguided/superficial....heal sick/do miracles.

- Jesus as source of prosperity not Savior/sin, Treasure in Himself.
 - Disciples also not yet completely understand Jesus' greatness.

John 6:7-9

Philip had no faith....sees only from human perspective. No money (or stores!)

- Like Phillip we do not include omnipotent Jesus in our calculations. Psalm 24:1
 - See limited HUMAN resources so don't attempt/obey.
 - Money, knowledge, TIME, skills (never done that), too old/young.
 - Focus on Jesus' sufficiency not your inadequacies!
 - Magnitude of task no excuse....Great Commission, CVI example.

Andrew's approach is better than Philip's...had faith for a second & then gone. Like us!

- Our impatience and underestimation of Jesus' power working in/thru our lives causes us to give up quickly....especially in prayer.

Neither looked to Jesus but He doesn't rebuke them....test not to solve problem but realize there's no "human" solution....they needed divine perspective. John 6:6, 10-13

- Not loaf but 5 little barley pancakes & 2 pickled/dried sardines fed 10-20,000 with 12 baskets of leftovers...significant = 12 disciples/tribes. Philippians 4:19

- Jesus is never stingy, always bountiful. But not gourmet either. Met needs. Jesus could “manna” from heaven but instead, like wedding, used what was available.
- Poor boy gave the little he had to Jesus who bless/multiply...my experience for 35 yrs.

- Not really about ABILITY but AVAILABILITYsports example
 - In Jesus’ powerful hands “little” becomes enormously significant.

World filled with great needs impossible to meet with only human wisdom/resources.

- Maybe you are the one needing help/miracle rescue...next week.
- Must have divine/vertical not human/horizontal perspective of challenges.
 - 5,000 precedes Bread of Life discourse so its miracle that points to salvation.
 - Physical needs should be met but man’s most significant need is not food, healing, family but eternal life from Jesus Christ.....CVI & Gospel

Point: Can’t meet others’ needs in own strength but use what have from God & He demonstrates His power thru our weakness. Ephesians 3:20, 1 Corinthians 1:26–27,29; 2 Corinthians 12:9

The miracle of feeding the 5,000 is in all four gospels so that we won’t forget how much the Lord can do with little things that are yielded to Him. C. H. Spurgeon

- If desire Jesus glorified in your life, yield inadequate/limited resources to Him and He will multiply, enable your puny efforts to accomplish His will.
 - Jesus is not limited by the limitations He’s given you.

Your inadequacies are opportunities for Jesus to glorify His name and build/grow your faith/trust in Him.

- Live with divine/vertical perspective: Jesus is in control, not you and He all-sufficient to meet any physical/spiritual need in your life.
 - Use you (maybe with miracles) to meet other’s significant needs.