



Lesson 30 – “Give Ye Them to Eat”

Based on Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:32-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-13

- 1) Where does our lesson begin today?

Luke 9:10 And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a _____ place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

- 2) Did Jesus find the peace and quietude He was seeking?

Mark 6:33 And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities, and outwent them, and came _____ unto him.

Many went by land to meet them, while others followed in their boats across the water. The Passover was at hand, and, from far and near, bands of pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem gathered to see Jesus. Additions were made to their number, until there were assembled five thousand men besides women and children. Before Christ reached the shore, a multitude were waiting for Him.

- 3) How did Jesus react to the disturbance?

Matthew 9:36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no _____.

From the hillside He looked upon the moving multitude, and His heart was stirred with sympathy. Interrupted as He was, and robbed of His rest, He was not impatient. He saw a greater necessity demanding His attention as He watched the people coming and still coming.

- 4) What did the disciples of Jesus finally say to Jesus?

Luke 9:12 And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, _____ the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place.

At length the day was far spent. The sun was sinking in the west, and yet the people lingered. Jesus had labored all day without food or rest. He was pale from weariness and hunger, and the disciples besought Him to cease from His toil. But He could not withdraw Himself from the multitude that pressed upon Him.

- 5) What was Jesus' better idea?

Matthew 14:16 But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give _____ them to eat.

- 6) How did John record the question to the disciples?

John 6:5-6 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to _____ him: for he himself knew what he would do.

- 7) How did Phillip react?

John 6:7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not _____ for them, that every one of them may take a little.



Two hundred pennyworth. The Greek word for “penny” is denarius. One denarius was a day’s wage for an unskilled laborer (Matthew 20:2), so that two hundred denarii would represent about seven months’ wages.

Philip looked over the sea of heads, and thought how impossible it would be to provide food to satisfy the wants of such a crowd.

8) What happened next?

John 6:8-9 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley _____, and two small _____: but what are they among so many?

9) What instructions did Jesus give His disciples?

John 6:10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five _____.

Jesus directed that these be brought to Him. Then He bade the disciples seat the people on the grass in parties of fifty or a hundred, to preserve order, and that all might witness what He was about to do.

- 10) **Matthew 14:19-20** And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to _____, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were _____: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.

The simple food passed round by the hands of the disciples contained a whole treasure of lessons. It was humble fare that had been provided; the fishes and barley loaves were the daily food of the fisher folk about the Sea of Galilee.

11) When everyone was fed, what did Jesus have them do?

John 6:12-13 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be _____. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled _____ baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

The lesson was twofold. Nothing is to be wasted. We are to let slip no temporal advantage. We should neglect nothing that will tend to benefit a human being. Let everything be gathered up that will relieve the necessity of earth's hungry ones. And there should be the same carefulness in spiritual things.

When the baskets of fragments were collected, the people thought of their friends at home. They wanted them to share in the bread that Christ had blessed. The contents of the baskets were distributed among the eager throng and were carried away into all the region round about. So those who were at the feast were to give to others the bread that comes down from heaven, to satisfy the hunger of the soul.

12) What was the testimony of all who were witnesses?

John 6:14 Then those men, when they had _____ the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a _____ that prophet that should come into the world.



13) What should we do if we want God's blessing?

Isaiah 58:7-10 Is it not to deal thy bread to the _____, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy _____ break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy _____ shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.

14) Have you ever felt like Andrew?

John 6:9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so _____?

Often, we hesitate, unwilling to give all that we have, fearing to spend and to be spent for others. But Jesus has bidden us, **"Give ye them to eat."** His command is a promise; and behind it is the same power that fed the multitude beside the sea.

15) When did Jesus and the disciples partake of the bounty?

John 6:12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the _____ that remain, that nothing be lost.

The food multiplied in His hands; and the hands of the disciples, reaching out to Christ Himself the Bread of Life, were never empty. The little store was sufficient for all. After the wants of the people had been supplied, the fragments were gathered up, and Christ and His disciples ate together of the precious, Heaven-supplied food.

16) What was Phillips question to Jesus?

John 6:5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, _____ shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

17) What was Jesus' reply?

Mathew 14:16 But Jesus said unto them, They need not _____; give ye them to eat.

When the people are destitute of the bread of life, the Lord's children question, Shall we send for someone from afar, to come and feed them? But what said Christ? **"Make the men sit down,"** and He fed them there. So when you are surrounded by souls in need, know that Christ is there. Commune with Him. Bring your barley loaves to Jesus.

The means in our possession may not seem to be sufficient for the work; but if we will move forward in faith, believing in the all-sufficient power of God, abundant resources will open before us. If the work be of God, He Himself will provide the means for its accomplishment. He will reward honest, simple reliance upon Him.

18) What promise did Jesus make to us?

Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be _____ unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be _____ to you again.

19) What was Paul's experience in blessing others?

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all _____ abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to _____ good work:



If we go to the Source of all strength, with our hands of faith outstretched to receive, we shall be sustained in our work, even under the most forbidding circumstances, and shall be enabled to give others the bread of life.

Can you see God supplies our need?

Would you like to be a blessing?

When is the time to answer the call?

*"But my God
shall supply all your need
according to his riches in glory by
Christ Jesus"
-Philippians 4:19*