

The Gospel According to Mark

A Most Satisfying Meal

Mark 6:30-44



6/19/2022 AM

Introduction:

I. THE RETURN OF THE DISCIPLES (vs. 30-36)

A. Their Joyful Report (vs. 30)

“The apostles gathered together with Jesus and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught.”

B. Their Need of Rest (vs. 31-32)

“And He said to them, ‘Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while.’ ”

“(For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.)”

“They went away in the boat to a secluded place by themselves.”

C. Their Curious Reception (vs. 33)

“The people saw them going, and many recognized them and ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them.”

D. Their Tired Reaction (vs. 35-36)

“When it was already quite late, His disciples came to Him and said. ‘This place is desolate and it is already quite late; send them away...’ ”

“so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

II. THE RESPONSE OF JESUS (vs. 34, 37-44)

A. His Immediate Compassion (vs. 34)

“When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd”

“and He began to teach them many things.”

B. His Initial Command (vs. 37)

“But He answered them, ‘You give them something to eat!’ ”

“And they said to Him, ‘Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them something to eat?’ ”

C. His Instructions for Catering (vs. 38-40)

“And He said to them, ‘How many loaves do you have? Go look!’ And when they found out, they said, ‘Five, and two fish.’ ”

“And He commanded them all to sit down by groups on the green grass. They sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.”

D. His Inexplicable Creation (vs. 41-44)

“And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food and broke the loaves...”

“and He kept giving them to the disciples to set before them; and He divided up the two fish among them all.”

“They all ate and were satisfied and they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish.”

“There were five thousand men who ate the loaves.”

Conclusion: Jesus teaches us...

- 1) to seek solitude, rest, and refreshment when it is necessary for our souls
- 2) to spend time together with others in our time of need
- 3) to withdraw from needless danger
- 4) to sacrifice personal rest and comfort for others
- 5) that ministry is looking to provide for others, not for yourself
- 6) to look at the needs of others with compassion and a view to how we can be part of the solution
- 7) that, while meeting people’s physical needs, we must take the opportunity to teach
- 8) to begin with our own available resources
- 9) to obey, even if we don’t understand
- 10) to be generous
- 11) to be orderly
- 12) to be thankful for what we receive

Food for Thought:

- 1) Given what you know about the disciples’ commissioning (vs. 7-13) and their probable ministry experiences, describe what you think their reports might have contained.
- 2) Why is Jesus’ first response, “you need to get away and rest a while”?
- 3) Contrast Jesus’ own response to the crowds (vs. 34) to that of the disciples (vs. 36).
- 4) How do you explain Jesus’ inexplicable creation of adequate food for the multitude (vs. 41)?