

Compassion, Power, and Provision

Mark 6:33-44

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. 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. ³⁵ When it was already quite late, His disciples came to Him and said, “This place is desolate and it is already quite late; ³⁶ send them away so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” 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?” ³⁸ And He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go look!” And when they found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹ And He commanded them all to sit down by groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ They sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² They all ate and were satisfied, ⁴³ and they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish. ⁴⁴ There were five thousand men who ate the loaves.

Life is filled with uncertainties. The people we see here in this passage desired to hear the teachings of Jesus and experience the power of His healing. For Jesus and His disciples, they were just wanting to get away from the crowd so they could rest.

When Jesus saw the crowd, He was not filled with frustration. The compassion of His heart began to flow freely instead of turning them away, He ministered to them and cared for their needs.

1. When we see inconvenience, we need to see opportunity.
Psalm 103:8, Colossians 3:12, John 4:35, Luke 10:2
2. When we see inadequacy, we need to see abundance.
Philippians 4:13, Romans 4:21, 1 Corinthians 2:5, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Colossians 1:11, John 14:13, 2 Corinthians 9:8
3. When we wish we had something, let Jesus work with what we have.
Judges 7:7-9, 15:15, Matthew 17:27, Acts 4:10, 13
4. When things are put in Jesus' hands they are never the same.
Mark 6:41-44, Psalm 107:9