

The ONLY Word Jesus Doesn't Understand
Matthew 14:13-21
Miracles and Parables—Part 8
March 19, 2923

"When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.' 'We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,' they answered. 'Bring them here to me,' he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children. --Matthew 14:13-21

Let's learn three life-changing lessons from the miracle of feeding the 5,000:

1. The _____ Lesson: Jesus _____ about _____ my needs

The Bible says, "When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick." --Matthew 14:14

2. The _____ Lesson: Jesus asks me to do the _____ to _____ me

The disciples came to Jesus and said, "Let's send the people away to the villages so they can buy food. Jesus said, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."—Matthew 14:15-16

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know the testing of your faith develops perseverance." --James 1:2-3

When you encounter a problem that involves a shortage, there are three different approaches you can take:

Some people are "_____": They address problems with their _____

Other people are "_____": They address problems with their _____.

"Lord, a year's wages would not be enough to buy everyone a single bite." --John 6:7

Human math says, "Five loaves and two fish divided by 15,000 = _____.

God's math says, "Five loaves plus two fish times the power of God = _____.

3. The _____ Lesson: When I give Jesus "only" all that I have, he turns my _____ into _____!

The disciples said, "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish." Jesus said, "Bring them here to me."—Matthew 14:17-19

The third way to face a shortage is to be a "_____": They say things like: "I _____ that God is able..."

"Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us ..." --Ephesians 3:20 NKJV

Jesus did four simple things when He received the five loaves and two fish:

1. _____ for help

"I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth." --Psalm 121:1-2

2. _____ for the little I have

3. _____ the value of brokenness

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." --Psalm 51:17

4. Serve _____ before _____