Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. 31 And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and ch. 3:20 they had no leisure even to eat. 32 For ver. 32-44, see Matt. 14:13-21; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-13; [ch. 8:2-9] And they went away in See ch. 3:9 the boat to a desolate place by themselves. 33Now many saw them going and ver. 54 recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34When he went ashore he [Matt. 9:36] saw a great crowd, and [Matt. 9:36] he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. 35And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. 36 ver. 45; [Matt. 15:23] Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

- This is when Jesus sent the disciples out on their own and they were retuning.
 - They told Jesus of what they did and what they taught
 - Notice it was a mixture of words and action
 - Don't get too heavy of on one or the other, but constantly be working at both to keep the balance between what you do, and what you say.
- Jesus saw how they were beginning to lean to heavily on the actions of their work, and he told them to come away on a retreat to rest and recover.
 - The disciples were working so hard they didn't even have time to stop and eat.

- We can't just work, work, we must always take time to rest and recalibrate with God.
- Being alone with him keeps us balanced when everything else in our lives are out of whack.
- So Jesus and the disciples took a boat ride
 - But the people saw them and raced ahead to where they were landing
 - Clearly the boat ride was not to make great timing,
 - The goal was not to get to a town faster, because the people were able to get there faster by walking/running
 - So the disciples were not hard at the oars to make progress, but leisurely riding along with Jesus.
 - The boat ride was time alone with Jesus, I believe Jesus was serving his disciples to prepare them for the landing.
 - They might have been expecting a weekend off to rest, but
 Jesus gave them the boat ride
 - DON'T WASTE YOUR BOAT RIDES
- Jesus had compassion when he saw people
 - We need to have more mercy and compassion on people when we see them
 - Especially nonbelievers, because they are "sheep without a shepherd"
 - I'm not sure who said it first, but "we should not be surprised when lost people act like lost people."
 - We need to be more gentle with the person who is not a Christian than the Christians in our churches.

- The disciples seem cold hearted by telling Jesus to send the people away to go buy food, and maybe they were
 - Maybe they were a little sad/bitter that their alone time with
 Jesus had been interrupted
 - Or, maybe they realized just by the number of people that there was no way they could feed them all
 - Even the closest town couldn't accommodate them, it would take the surrounding villages
- But, they made the mistake of telling Jesus what He needed to do, rather than asking "Jesus, what should we do?"

at." And [John 6:7] they said to him, [Num. 11:13, 21, 22] "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii 6:37 A denarius was a day's wage for a laborer worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" 38And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, [ch. 8:19] "Five, and two fish." 39Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. 41And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he [ch. 7:34; John 11:41; 17:1] looked up to heaven and [ch. 8:7; 14:22; 1 Sam. 9:13; Matt. 26:26; Luke 24:30; [1 Cor. 14:16] said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. 42And they all ate and were satisfied. 43And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

- Jesus stuns them
 - Jesus tells them to feed the people

- Don't assume that it is somebody else's job to care for the people around us
- Don't assume that the people around us should care for themselves even if they could.
- Think about how to bring God glory, in every situation
- The disciples did some quick math. And, it would take roughly 200 days wages to buy bread for them all.
 - Jesus asked them, "what do you have?"
 - 5 loaves and 2 fish
 - o It was enough.
 - Jesus doesn't call us to do things in order to watch us fail. If God wills it we cannot fail.
 - Don't assume if a task is really big that there is a need for us to go find the resources to make it happen
 - Jesus gave a mission, "feed them" and they realized they couldn't, Jesus said what do you have? They said 5 loaves 2 fish,
 - He said, start there.
 - Start from where you are and take the next step.
- I don't know all the ends and outs of how this miracle happened
 - But it happened
 - The task that was impossible, too expensive, beyond the resources of the disciples, was accomplished when Jesus and their obedience combined.
 - And there was more than enough for everybody.
- Just a side note, there were 5,000 men, if they had wives and children with them it would be closer to 20,000 total people.

Jesus Walks on the Water

45 For ver. 45-51, see Matt. 14:22-32; John 6:15-21 | Immediately he [Matt. 8:18] made his disciples get into ver. 32 the boat and go before him to the other side, ch. 8:22; [Luke 9:10] to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46And after he had taken leave of them, Luke 6:12; 9:28; [ch. 1:35; Luke 5:16] he went up on the mountain to pray. 47And when [ch. 13:35] evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about [See ver. 47] above] the fourth watch of the night 6:48 That is, between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. he came to them, walking on the sea. [Luke 24:28] He meant to pass by them, 49but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, 50for they all saw him and [Luke 24:37] were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, [Matt. 17:7; [Deut. 31:6; Isa. 41:13; 43:1, 2; John 16:33] "Take heart; it is I. Matt. 17:7; [Deut. 31:6; Isa. 41:13; 43:1, 2; John 16:33] Do not be afraid." 51And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, 52for ch. 8:17-21 they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts John 12:40; Rom. 11:7; 2 Cor. 3:14; See ch. 3:5 were hardened.

- Jesus desired time alone with God
 - He made time to be with God, alone, just himself
 - We need to model this. Constantly.
- This boat ride was much different than the previous one
 - Previously was slow pace cruise, whereas this one was directly into the wind pushing against them

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- He meant to pass by them
 - Why?
 - Was it to allow them to struggle?

- To show them that they would have a much harder time without Him?
- Was is a result of fear or humility that they called to Jesus
 - Fear, they were terrified.
 - They could have asked out of humility to have him join them.

• The wind ceased

- They were astonished by the wind stopping, but I would have been astonished by a man walking across the water.
- Hard Hearts
 - They were still thinking about the food

Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret

For ver. 53-56, see Matt. 14:34-36; [John 6:24, 25] When they had crossed over, they came to land at Luke 5:1 Gennesaret and moored to the shore. 54And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately ver. 33 recognized him 55and ran about the whole region and began to bring Matt. 4:24 the sick people Luke 5:18 on their beds to wherever they heard he was. 56And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, Acts 5:15 they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even See Matt. 9:20 the fringe of his garment. And ch. 3:10; Luke 6:19 as many as touched it were made well.

- The Gennesaret was a neighboring town of the lady who touched Jesus's cloak to be healed from bleeding.
 - Now people were coming from all around just looking to touch the fringe of his garment.
 - It seems that She used the 12 years of suffering, and was making much of Him who healed her.
- The suffering God has given us, and the things he's healed us from

- Are we using it to make much of him or are we still distracted by the discomfort, inconvenience, pain, suffering or heart ache it has caused us?
- Let's leave here and use our stories to make much of Jesus.