

The Messiah's Power to Feed Five Thousand: The Essentials for Ministry

Mathew 14: 15–21

(Mk 6:30-44; Lk 9:10-17; Jn 6:1-14)

1. *Essential 1:*

Seeing people and having compassion

- a. Christ's example, v. 14
 - 1) Seeing the crowds
 - 2) Feeling compassion
- b. The disciples' concern: Only a human concern

2. *Essential 2:*

Accepting one's duty to minister

- a. Christ's charge: Give
- b. The disciples' humanism: Saw only what they had — resources were inadequate

3. *Essential 3:*

Trusting Christ to use one's resources

- a. The disciples' duty: To bring the resources to Christ
- b. Jesus' example
 - 1) Taking resources
 - 2) Thanking God
 - 3) Using the resources
- c. The disciples' part
 - 1) To share
 - 2) To save and be thrifty
 - 3) To observe and witness Christ's

15 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."

16 Jesus replied,
"They do not need to go away.
You give them something to eat."

17 "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,"
they answered.

18 "Bring them here to me," he said.

19 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.

20 They all ate and were satisfied,
and the disciples picked up
twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

21 The number of those who ate
was about five thousand men,
besides women and children.

1. Essential 1: Seeing people and having compassion

- a. Christ's example, v. 14
 - 1) Seeing the crowds
 - 2) Feeling compassion
- b. The disciples' concern: Only a human concern

2. Essential 2: Accepting one's duty to minister

- a. Christ's charge: Give
- b. The disciples' humanism: Saw only what they had resources were inadequate

3. Essential 3: Trusting Christ to use one's resources

- a. The disciples' duty: To bring the resources to Christ
- b. Jesus' example
 - 1) Taking resources
 - 2) Thanking God
 - 3) Using the resources
- c. The disciples' part
 - 1) To share
 - 2) To save and be thrifty
 - 3) To observe and witness Christ's power, His Messiahship

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