

Eat and be satisfied.

Matthew 14:13-21 (P. 974 in the pew Bible). Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. 15 Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." 16 But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." 17 They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." 18 And he said, "Bring them here to me." 19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. 21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

1. Feel the compassion of Jesus toward you and toward others.

Matthew 9:35- 36 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

2. Jesus shows us that He is the Good Shepherd of Israel.

Mark 6:34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.

Ezekiel 34:23-24 And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken.

Numbers 27:15-17 Moses spoke to the Lord, saying, 16 "Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation 17 who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep that have no shepherd."

Psalms 23:1-3, 5 The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.... You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...

3. Jesus is the bread of life and the bread of heaven that has come down from heaven to give life you and to the world.

John 6:48-50 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

4. Jesus calls us to the Ultimate Messianic Banquet at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:9 And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

1 Corinthians 2:9 But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”

5. Do you have an appetite for Jesus? Will you feed on Christ and be satisfied? Will you give others “something to eat?”

Psalms 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

In preparation for this message Pastor John is grateful for the insights of Ligon Duncan, Kim Riddlebarger, and the ESV Study Bible.

For a digital version of today’s sermon, go to bit.ly/nsc sermonnotes. For a digital version of the 2020 Bible Reading Plan in 1 year or 2 years, go to bit.ly/1YearBibleReadingPlan.



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