

Feeding The 5,000 - Part 4

1. **Did you learn anything new about Jesus? If so, what?**
2. **When Jesus sent His disciples out the first time what did He tell them to bring with them?**
Imagine you were a youth pastor taking your students on a two week mission trip. If you gave them the same instructions that Jesus gave His disciples what kind of push back do you think you would get?
What do you think would be the hardest thing for them to let go of?
What would be the hardest thing for you to leave behind?
3. **Did the disciples lack anything while they were on their trip?**
4. Jesus strategically positioned the disciples to experience His supernatural provision. He did it once by sending them out with nothing and again by taking them to a desolate place without food knowing a crowd of thousands would show up.

Share an example of when Jesus strategically positioned you, or a friend, in a situation to experience His supernatural provision.

Points
to
Ponder



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6. On Jesus last night with with His disciples look at what He says to them in Luke 22:35,36;

“When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?” They said, “Nothing.” He said to them, “But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one.

Why do you think Jesus switches the way He sends them out now?

7. For forty years God provided manna every day (a part from Sabbaths) for His people as they wandered in the wilderness and their shoes and clothes did not wear out. As soon as they ate the produce in the promise land the manna stopped.

What do you think Jesus wanted them to learn deep in their hearts before they lived in a land of abundance?

8. Can you recall a time when you weren't sure how you were going to pay for rent, groceries or gas?

Some people say it's easier to recognize God as our provider in times of need more than in times of abundance. Would you agree? Why or why not?

What type of season can you relate to more right now; lack or abundance?

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Digging Deeper

Job knew better than anyone what it was like to be living in abundance and in one day experience profound loss. His response is humbling,

*Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and **worshiped**. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong. (Job 1:20-22)*

Job was powerless over his circumstances but not over his response to them. He had a choice. Job got to choose the way he responded to this season of great loss, loneliness and uncertainty. Job chose to WORSHIP the LORD God. This didn't mean he painted on a smile and acted like everything was okay. He was in excruciating physical and emotional pain and cried real tears. But in all of it, Job did not accuse God of acting **wrong**. The word used there in Hebrew means 'foolishly.' The opposite of foolishness is wisdom. Wisdom is 'knowledge applied.' To act foolishly is to 'not apply knowledge' Job never accused God of any ill-thought or lack of forward thinking or caution. He was confident that His God knew best and because of that He was willing to lay his life down and in essence say, "Your will. Your way. YHWHY."

This sounds a lot like what Jesus prayed in the garden before He willingly laid down His life on the cross; "*Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.*" (Mark 14:36)

Points to Ponder



It also sound a lot like the way Jesus taught His disciples to pray;

*“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven...”*
(Matthew 6:9,10)

Would you be willing to WORSHIP God by praying “Your will. Your way. YHWHY.”?

The hardest part for me to pray in that three part prayer is, **“Your WAY.”** That’s the part that often doesn’t make sense to us, but would you agree with the LORD when He says,

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*
(Isaiah 55:8,9)

Let’s CHOOSE to WORSHIP the LORD right now! Let’s CHOOSE to say to our great God, “You are not a fool! You are God Almighty, ALL wise, ALL powerful and worthy of ALL of my worship. **Your will. Your way. YHWHY.**”

Points to Ponder



