

## Lent Day 7 – More than Bread

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Scripture Reading: John 6:1-15

*<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). <sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.*

*<sup>12</sup> When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.” <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.*

*<sup>14</sup> After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” <sup>15</sup> Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.*

What if God never performed a single miracle in our lives—none of the answers we longed for or pleaded to see? Would we still believe in Him? Would we continue to follow Him by faith?

There are many seasons when God seems silent. We wait, wondering when and how He will answer. Often, if we are honest, we are not just hoping for His answer—we are hoping for our answer. We want Him to move in our way rather than His.

In John’s Gospel, after Jesus feeds the crowd with bread and fish, the people respond with excitement. They praise Him for His provision and begin to speak of Him as a great prophet. They imagine a king who will continue to supply their needs and perhaps even free them from Roman oppression. Bread today, bread tomorrow—strength, security, stability.

But Jesus withdraws from their applause. Why? Because He knows what is in their hearts. They are drawn to what He gives, not to who He is.

It is a bit like feeding seagulls at the beach. The moment they see you holding food, they gather. More come. They circle and squawk until the bag is empty. They are not interested in you—they are interested in what you hold. What began as a simple act of sharing quickly becomes noisy, demanding attention. There is no relationship there, only appetite.

Spiritually speaking, we must ask ourselves: Is this how we approach the Lord? When He provides, when He answers, when He performs a miracle, we are quick to praise. But are we worshipping God—or merely the gifts of God?

Jesus does not want to be loved only for what He does. He wants to be known for who He is. He is not merely a provider of bread; He is the Bread of Life. The crowd saw a miracle worker. They did not realize they were standing before the Son of God—the One who created the grain, the water, the yeast, and even the breath that gives life.

Today, seek the Lord not simply for His blessings, but for Himself. Even if you glimpse only a small measure of His greatness, may it overwhelm you. May it shift your heart from craving His gifts to standing in awe of His glory—His grace, His power, and His magnificent love.