# Mark 6.6-13, 30-32 (Part 1) & Mark 6.30-44 (Part 2)

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#### Mark 6 v 6 – 13 & 30 - 32

Jesus went around teaching from village to village.  $^7$  Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.

<sup>8</sup> These were his instructions: 'Take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. <sup>9</sup> Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. <sup>10</sup> Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. <sup>11</sup> And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.'

 $^{12}$ They went out and preached that people should repent.  $^{13}$ They drove out many demons and anointed with oil many people who were ill and healed them.

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered round Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.' <sup>32</sup> So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

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#### Summer invitation

Jesus said to them,

"Come with me
by yourselves
to a quiet place
and get some rest."

### Feeding of a huge crowd Mark 6 v 30 - 44 <sup>32</sup> So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. <sup>33</sup> But many who saw them leaving recognised them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. <sup>35</sup> By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. 'This is a remote place,' they said, 'and it's already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to <sup>37</sup> But he answered, 'You give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?' <sup>38</sup> 'How many loaves do you have?' he asked. 'Go and see.' When they found out, they said, 'Five - and two fish.' $^{39}$ Then Jesus told them to make all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. $^{40}$ So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. $^{41}$ 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 his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, <sup>43</sup> and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. <sup>44</sup> The number of the 5 men who had eaten was five thousand. Very well known miracle

Very well known miracle – appears in all four gospels.

What strikes you today as you hear the story read again?

### How does Jesus respond to the crowd? · Welcomed them • Had compassion on them Healed them Taught them 7 How does Jesus respond to the crowd? Had compassion on them because they were ... ....like sheep without a shepherd - muddled & confused - leaderless & directionless The disciples intervene v35-36 Very practical Remote • Late • Send the people away "You give them something to eat"

#### "You give them something to eat"

Coffee shop Big Lunch **Foodbank** House groups Wednesday Fellowship **Tiddlywinks** Prayer Ministry The Buzz Parenting/Marriage courses Inspire Games Night 20&30s Keep fit Ultra Cru **SuperMinis** Mega-X Seekers Come Together Creche Philadelphia Holiday Club Ramblers Christianity/Discipleship Explored

Community; Friendship & Acceptance; Meeting Need What else?

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#### The disciples raise issues v37

Very practical again

- Cost a lot
- Do we want to do this anyway?

"How many loaves do you have? Go and see"

#### Fives loaves and two fish

Was this adequate?

No & Yes

- Start with what you have got, not what you have not got
- What you have ... .... plus God.

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#### "Get the people to sit down in groups"

Miraculous but well-organised

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, Jesus gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all.

Imagine yourself as one of the disciples at this point. What are you thinking as he calls you forward to start distributing food?

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## The miracle: "They all ate and were satisfied." (Luke 9:17 NAB)

#### Feeding the huge crowd

1. A 'sign' showing who Jesus is and his great power

'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.' John 6 v 35 & 40

2. An example of the fact that King Jesus chooses to do his kingdom work through his people

'we will grow to become the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work.'

Ephesians 4 v 15-16

A reminder to us that without him we can achieve nothing and that, by faith in him, we have all the resources we require

'If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.' John 15 v 5

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