

## 20200112 – THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

Sunday AM – John 6:5-14

### I. NOT WEARY IN WELL-DOING

A. Galatians 6:9 – “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

1. Jesus came to rest but could not because of ministry!
  - a. Old quote: The world is run by tired people.
  - b. John in many places emphasized the human aspects of Jesus
    - i. He lifted up his EYES (vs. 5)
    - ii. He SAW (vs. 5)
    - iii. He SAT (vs. 3)
  - c. He had been doing the work His Father had sent Him to do
    - i. And work is tiring!
    - ii. Motto: Anything worth doing will be hard!
    - iii. If it were easy, anyone could have done it
    - iv. If it were merely difficult, a few could have done it
    - v. If it were only nearly impossible, one might have done it.
    - vi. But since God’s Saving Work was IMPOSSIBLE for man to do, ONLY Jesus could do it!
2. He looked up and saw
  - a. Praise God He LOOKED!
    - i. UP on this multitude and saw their need of food
    - ii. DOWN from heaven saw our need to be Saved
    - iii. OUT from the Cross and saw my need for a Savior!
  - b. That is His burden
  - c. The Work was not yet finished
    - i. And He was REST-LESS
    - ii. He could not be fully at ease
    - iii. He had a burden for the lost
3. He did not send them away – He gave them BREAD

B. He received them

1. Luke 9:10-11 – “And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. (11) And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing.”
2. In parallel passages, the disciples wanted to send them away
3. Matthew 14:15 – “And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves

victuals. (16) But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat.”

C. His Burden for the lost is greater than all!

1. His principle concern, his *raison d’ete*, first mission, ultimate objective
  - a. He came to Seek and to Save!
  - b. And WE are to be Christ-ian
  - c. That means Christ – “like”
  - d. If His principle burden was for the lost, then it should be ours!
2. They were out in a desert place
  - a. In the mountains
  - b. Think of how they made bread in those days
    - i. How much is a McDonald’s Fillet-O-Fish? \$2.50?
    - ii. That’s 5000 men. Plus maybe 5000 more women
    - iii. And let’s assume twice that many children – 10,000
    - iv. That’s \$50,000.00!
    - v. Now YOU go place that order at the drive-thru!
      - i. There wouldn’t be enough at McDonalds
      - ii. And there wasn’t enough in that whole region!
  - c. And by the way, that amount is completely in line!
    - i. A penny (vs. 7) is roughly a day’s wage.
    - ii. Matthew 20:1-2 – “For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. (2) And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.”
    - iii. Average salary in Naples is 63K....
      - i. That’s 261 working days
      - ii. 200 days’ worth in Bethsaida is 50K
      - iii. Sounds about right!
  - d. There wasn’t
3. He CARED!
  - a. The people had been there all day
    - i. They were hungry
    - ii. They had traveled far to see Jesus
    - iii. And there wasn’t enough bread to purchase to feed all
  - b. Does Jesus Care?
    - i. People ask this all the time
    - ii. They see the world around spinning out of control
    - iii. They see the wicked enriched and righteous mistreated
    - iv. His Word tells us He cares
    - v. 1 Peter 5:7 – “Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”
  - c. Frank Graeff

- i. Frank Graeff was a very cheerful person, but also one that had times of deep doubt and even physical agony and depression.. In one of those times he turned to I Peter 5:7 to help bring him back. It was from this verse he composed a hymn that has helped comfort so many Christians.

*Does Jesus care when my heart is pained too deeply for mirth or song,  
As the burdens press, and the cares distress, and the way grows weary and long?*

*Does Jesus care when my way is dark with a nameless dread and fear?  
As the daylight fades into deep night shades, does He care enough to be near?*

*Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed to resist some temptation strong;  
When for my deep grief there is no relief, though my tears flow all the night long?*

*Does Jesus care when I've said "goodbye" to the dearest on earth to me,  
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks — is it aught to Him? Does He see?*

*Oh, yes, He cares, I know He cares, His heart is touched with my grief;  
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.*

- d. Jesus is God.
  - i. He is not,
  - ii. He cannot,
  - iii. And He WILL not be limited!

## **II. HE IS NOT LIMITED BY WHERE YOU ARE**

### **A. Philip (vs. 5)**

1. John 1:44 – “Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.”
2. He would be the one most likely to know
3. But Jesus asked him to prove him (vs. 6)
4. Jesus already knew Philip’s answer

### **B. Jesus had ALREADY planned to meet the impossible need (vs. 6)**

### **C. Jesus IS the bread of Life (John 6:35)**

## **III. HE IS NOT LIMITED BY WHAT YOU HAVE**

### **A. 200 penny-worth**

1. Most of an year’s wage
2. May not have been a random number upon which Philip seized
3. This may have been exactly what was in the bag Judas carried

- B. Sounds like Faith Promise Missions to me!
  - 1. Jesus is not limited by what's in the bag!
  - 2. Neither is He limited by what's in the offering plate
  - 3. But we should always be obedient to Him in our giving!
- C. A little (vs. 7)
  - 1. Even if we could find enough bread to spend our 200 pennys
  - 2. It wouldn't be enough to SATISFY the hunger in them
  - 3. No, money will never satisfy the need for God in your life!

#### **IV. HE IS NOT LIMITED BY WHAT YOU BRING**

- A. Andrew (vs. 8)
  - 1. This disciple was always bringing people to Jesus
  - 2. Look at John 1:40-41
  - 3. He just thought that no matter the problem, Jesus can help
  - 4. Let's take a que from Brother Andrew!
  - 5. Let's bring people to Jesus!
- B. The Little Lad who brought his Light Lunch to a Loving Lord (vs. 9)
  - 1. "Mama, I want to go hear the great preacher!"
  - 2. And she packed him a lunch!
  - 3. This wasn't even 200 penny-worth of bread!
  - 4. Like the Gideon's soldiers – God said let's cut it down some more
  - 5. How about 5 barley loves and 2 SMALL fishes (vs. 9)
  - 6. Barley wasn't even the good stuff!
- C. He had them sit (vs. 10)
  - 1. Orderly ranks
    - a. Springtime – the time of Passover
    - b. Not the heat of summer, not the chill of winter
    - c. Grass there the Bible says, maybe the poppies were in bloom
    - d. Orderly ranks of people waiting on what God would do next!
  - 2. Not a magic show, not a circus
    - a. Just God doing a miracle (vs. 11)
    - b. Told to us in simple language
    - c. Simple for Him
    - d. Wonderous for us
  - 3. The supply seemed inexhaustible
    - a. They were FILLED! (vs. 12)
    - b. With 12 baskets left over
    - c. One for each of the disciples (vs. 13)

#### **V. HE IS NOT LIMITED BY WHAT YOU DID**

- A. People worry that they cannot be Saved
  - 1. They think they've sinned too much

2. They think they've gone too far
  3. By the authority of Scripture, you are mistaken!
  4. 2 Peter 3:9 tells us that the "Lord is ... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
- B. He is the Bread of Life
1. See this: Man knows in his heart that Salvation is impossible
  2. Look at verse 7 – Our heart barely hopes for "just a little" and knows nothing can fill our hunger, our need for God in our lives.
  3. But looks at verse 8 – There's no lack! As MUCH AS THEY WOULD!
  4. God is the only one who can fill the hunger in your heart.
  5. He is the Great Physician that can heal the sin-sick soul.
- C. Come to Jesus today!