

Date: 11 August 24

Text: Mark 6:30-44

Message: Ted Rastatter

Questions: Jason Finke

In this week's passage, Mark recounts an instance when Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people. The twelve disciples had recently returned after being sent out by Jesus to preach throughout the region. Jesus took them to a secluded place so that they could rest, but the people saw them going and met them there. Jesus felt compassion for the crowd, so he began to teach them. As it got late, the disciples encouraged Jesus to send the crowd away so they could buy food. Instead, Jesus had the people sit down and proceeded to multiply five loaves of bread and two fish to feed the people. The whole crowd of 5,000 men (plus women and children) were fed and satisfied.

The main point of the sermon was three reasons for confidence in Jesus. Ted organized the sermon around the below points.

- 1. His compassion**
- 2. His provision**
- 3. His satisfaction**

Discussion

1. In the sermon, Ted made a connection between Jesus feeding the crowd and Israel's exodus from Egypt – specifically God's provision. **Read Exodus 16:11-15.** How does this passage demonstrate God's ability to provide for the Israelites? In what other ways did God provide for the Israelites in the wilderness? How is God's provision in Exodus 16 similar to Jesus's feeding the crowd in Mark 6?
2. Ted also highlighted the fact that Jesus had compassion on the crowd because they were like sheep without a shepherd. He noted some of the issues sheep have when they don't have a shepherd. How is Jesus's compassion on this crowd similar to the compassion he has on sinners? How does Jesus's compassion give us confidence in approaching Him?
3. Moreover, Ted stated that we can have confidence in Jesus because of His provision. He noted that God will bring us to desolate places in order to get us away from our functional "saviors" and teach us to depend on Him. Why are we prone to rely on these functional "saviors"? Why do we need to be reminded to rely on Jesus? How do these desolate places (and God's provision in them) grow our confidence in Him?
4. Additionally, Ted discussed the fact that Jesus satisfies (demonstrated by the fact that the people ate and were filled). Why do we often seek satisfaction from other sources? Why do these other sources ultimately fail to satisfy us?
5. Finally, Ted stated that Jesus's compassion, provision, and satisfaction were demonstrated by the cross. **Read Romans 5:8, 1 Peter 2:24, and Romans 3:24-26.** How does the cross illustrate His compassion, provision, and satisfaction? How does the cross reassure us that we can have confidence in Jesus?