

## Miracles and the Messiah- Miracle 4- John 6:1-15

- Quick review of lesson from last week and purpose of this series.
- With John's purpose being to prove that Jesus is God. How did healing a man on the sabbath prove Jesus is God?
- So we're going to use our imaginations to start our lesson. We are a culture that loves food. Actually I think all cultures around the world like food. It's just the way God created us. A lot of life is lived around meals. Anyway, I want you to imagine we're gonna go somewhere for the day, and there are gonna be a ton of people there. Now, when we get there, and remember we're there most of the day, we find out there really is nothing for us to eat when it meal time comes around. They may have like crackers and one thing of lunch meat. Certainly not enough to feed everyone...**what would you think? What would you do?**
- In today's miracle we're going to see that Jesus and His disciples are going to find themselves in that kind of predicament, only they aren't the ones expected to be fed, they're the ones expected to do the feeding.
- As we go through today's lesson I want you to consider two questions, and the answers are tied together.
  - How does this miracle prove Jesus is God?
  - Is there any significance to this miracle being centered around food?
- Read John 6:1-15
- **What happened? What did Jesus do?**
- **Retell the story**
  - John starts this story by telling us a huge crowd was following Jesus because they saw the signs that he was performing...specifically healing the sick.
  - As the crowd is following them Jesus goes up to a mountain and begins to teach.
  - ***Get everyone to stand, and then sit down– point out this is how teachers used to teach.***

- Now, I'm going to teach for the next several hours. Would you be able to stand all day? Also, how hungry would you be after standing for several hours?
  - School lunch illustration- I remember sitting in school watching the clock get closer and closer to lunch. I was always starving. The worst was when it was standardized testing week, it always felt like lunch took a long time to arrive. Imagine standing that whole time, I don't think I'd make it.
- The point I'm trying to make is the people were hungry, and Jesus knew it.
- Jesus saw the crowd that was there and he asked Philip, one of the disciples "where can we buy food?"
- Philip said "two hundred denarii wouldn't buy enough food for everyone."
  - **How much do you think \$200 denarii actually is?** - 8 months wages.
  - Average amount a person in the US makes a month is \$6,228...8 months of that is \$49,824...let's just say \$50,000.
  - Can you imagine needing \$50,000 to feed a ton of people at once.
  - Of course they didn't have enough money...do you have enough?
  - Even that amount isn't enough for everyone to eat
- Peter points out there's a boy with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish.
  - Loaf of bread not how we think of it. One loaf is flat, maybe a little thicker than tortilla bread.
- This is clearly not enough food to feed everyone. But Jesus takes the food, blesses it and has the disciples pass it out. **What do you think the disciples were feeling/thinking?**
- John tells us that it was 5,000 men who were fed...this means there could have been more than 5,000 people there considering that there were possibly women and children there as well.
- After everyone ate their fill, meaning they had enough to be satisfied, Jesus had the disciples collect the leftovers. When they had done that there were 12 baskets left over.
- The men who witnessed the miracle said "this is the prophet come into the world."
  - **What do you think they meant by the prophet?**
  - Check out Deuteronomy 18:15—Moses wrote this book, it's essentially his last message to the people of Israel. This passage is Him talking about the Messiah coming to the world.
  - These men are saying that Jesus is the promised one.

- The last thing we see in this story is Jesus seeing that they were ready to crown Him king went into the mountain by Himself.
  - **Why do you think Jesus withdrew to the mountain?**
    - The Jews had a misunderstanding of how Messiah was going to come and what he was going to come to do.
    - Also, remember what He told His mom at His first miracle. His time had not come...anyone remember what that is referencing?
- **Is there any significance to this miracle being centered around food?**
  - Jump ahead to 6:26-35
  - The men who were fed wanted to crown Jesus king because they had a physical need met.
  - Yet Jesus is pointing out to them that their spiritual need is greater.
  - Jesus wanted them to see that yes God met their forefather's physical needs by sending manna from heaven to feed them in the wilderness. Jesus wanted them to see that not only would their physical needs be met by God, but more importantly their spiritual needs were met.
- **How does this miracle prove Jesus is God?**
  - Jesus can meet our physical and spiritual needs, something only God can do.

**Take away from this lesson-**

Jesus can meet our physical and spiritual needs, something only God can do.