

I. Enjoying Easy Times with Jesus (10-11)

- A. Recounting past blessings to Jesus (10a) - “On their return the apostles told Him all that they had done.”
- B. Sequestered time alone with Jesus (10b) - “And He took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida.”
- C. Learning the wisdom of Jesus (11a) - “When the crowds learned it, they followed Him, and He welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God...”
- D. Experiencing the power of Jesus (11b) - “...and cured those who had need of healing.”

II. Entering Intense Times with Jesus (12-14a)

- A. Long days of demand (12a) - “Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to Him...”
- B. Heartfelt concerns for people (12b) - “Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place.”
- C. Daunting expectations from Jesus (13a) - But He said to them, “You give them something to eat.”
- D. Limited resources to invest (13b-14a) - “We have no more than five loaves and two fish - unless we are to go and buy food for all these people. For there were about five thousand men.”

III. Experiencing Enlightening Times with Jesus (14b-17)

- A. Learning that He has a plan (14b-15) - “And He said to His disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” And they did so, and had them all sit down.” **Events belong to God, duty belongs to man - M. Henry**
- B. Learning to release all you have (16a) - “And taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them.”
- C. Learning what He does with your release (16b) - “Then He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.” **He takes & gives back.**
- D. Learning the ability of God to abundantly supply (17) - “And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.”
The disciples had a little, the disciples had nothing, the disciples had abundance