

Session 13: The Feeding of the Five Thousand and Walking on the Water

Matthew 14:13-15:20; Mark 6:30-7:23; Luke 9:10-17

The Twelve Return and the Five Thousand are Fed.

Matthew 14:13-21	Mark 6:30-44	Luke 9:10-17
<p>13 Now when Jesus heard about John, He withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by Himself; and when the crowds heard of this, they followed Him on foot from the cities.</p> <p>14 And when He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.</p> <p>15 Now when it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This place is desolate and the hour is already late; so send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."</p> <p>16 But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away; you give them something to eat!"</p> <p>17 But they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."</p>	<p>30 And the apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught.</p> <p>31 And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.)</p> <p>32 And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves.</p> <p>33 And the people saw them going, and many recognized them and ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them.</p> <p>34 And when Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.</p> <p>35 And when it was already quite late, His disciples came to Him and began saying, "This place is desolate, and it is already quite late;</p> <p>36 send them away so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."</p>	<p>10 And when the apostles returned, they recounted to Him all that they had done.</p> <p>Taking them with Him, He slipped away by Himself to a city called Bethsaida.</p> <p>11 But when the crowds became aware of this, they followed Him; and welcoming them, He began speaking to them about the kingdom of God and curing those who had need of healing.</p> <p>12 Now the day was ending, and the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and obtain lodging and find provisions, for here we are in a desolate place."</p> <p>13 But He said to them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless perhaps we go and buy</p>

<p>18 And He said, "Bring them here to Me." 19 And ordering the crowds to sit down on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food. And breaking the loaves, He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds, 20 and they all ate and were satisfied. They picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve full baskets. 21 And there were about five thousand men who ate, besides women and children.</p>	<p>37 But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said to Him, "Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them something to eat?" 38 And He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go look!" And when they found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." 39 And He commanded them all to sit down by groups on the green grass. 40 And they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. 41 And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food and broke the loaves. And He kept giving them to the disciples to set before them, and He divided up the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied, 43 and they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish. 44 And there were five thousand men who ate the loaves.</p>	<p>food for all these people." 14 (For there were about five thousand men.) And He said to His disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." 15 And they did so and had them all sit down. 16 Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them. And He broke them and kept giving them to the disciples to set before the crowd. 17 And they all ate and were satisfied; and the broken pieces which they had left over were picked up, twelve baskets full.</p>
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Preventing the People from Proclaiming Jesus as King (cf. John 6:15)

Matthew 14:22-23	Mark 6:45-46
<p>22 Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away. 23 And after He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by</p>	<p>45 And immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the crowd away.</p>

<i>Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone.</i>	<i>46 And after bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray.</i>
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The Peril of the Twelve in the Storm and Jesus Walking on the Water

Matthew 14:24-33	Mark 6:47-52
<p><i>24 But the boat was already many stadia away from the land, being battered by the waves; for the wind was against them.</i></p> <p><i>25 And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea.</i></p> <p><i>26 Now when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.</i></p> <p><i>27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."</i></p> <p><i>28 And Peter answered and said to Him, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."</i></p> <p><i>29 And He said, "Come!" And getting out of the boat, Peter walked on the water and came toward Jesus.</i></p> <p><i>30 But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"</i></p> <p><i>31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"</i></p> <p><i>32 And when they got into the boat, the wind stopped.</i></p> <p><i>33 And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You are truly God's Son!"</i></p>	<p><i>47 And when it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land.</i></p> <p><i>48 And seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He was intending to pass by them.</i></p> <p><i>49 But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they thought that it was a ghost, and cried out;</i></p> <p><i>50 for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid."</i></p> <p><i>51 Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were utterly amazed,</i></p> <p><i>52 for they had not gained any insight about the loaves, but their heart was hardened.</i></p>

The Reception at Gennesaret and the Pharisees' Reproach

Matthew 14:35-15:20	Mark 6:53-7:23
<p>34 <i>And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.</i></p> <p>35 <i>And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent word into all that surrounding district and brought to Him all who were sick;</i></p> <p>36 <i>and they were pleading with Him that they might just touch the fringe of His garment; and as many as touched it were cured.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHAPTER 15</p> <p>1 <i>Then some Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,</i></p> <p>2 <i>“Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”</i></p> <p>3 <i>And He answered and said to them, “Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?”</i></p> <p>4 <i>“For God said, ‘HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER,’ and, ‘HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH.’</i></p> <p>5 <i>“But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or mother, “Whatever you might benefit from me is given to God,”</i></p> <p>6 <i>he need not honor his father.’ And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.</i></p>	<p>53 <i>And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore.</i></p> <p>54 <i>And when they got out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him,</i></p> <p>55 <i>and ran about that whole region and began to carry here and there on their mats those who were sick, to the place they heard He was.</i></p> <p>56 <i>And wherever He was entering villages, or cities, or countryside, they were laying the sick in the marketplaces, and pleading with Him that they might just touch the fringe of His garment; and as many as touched it were being saved from their sicknesses.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHAPTER 7</p> <p>1 <i>And the Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem,</i></p> <p>2 <i>and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with defiled hands, that is, unwashed.</i></p> <p>3 <i>(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;</i></p> <p>4 <i>and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.)</i></p> <p>5 <i>And the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with defiled hands?”</i></p> <p>6 <i>And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.</i></p>

7 *"You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:*

8 *'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.*

9 *'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE COMMANDS OF MEN.'*"

10 *After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand.*

11 *"It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."*

12 *Then the disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?"*

13 *But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted.*

14 *"Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit."*

15 *Now Peter answered and said to Him, "Explain the parable to us."*

16 *And Jesus said, "Are you still lacking in understanding also? **17***

"Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and goes into the sewer?

18 *"But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.*

19 *"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries,*

7 *'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE COMMANDS OF MEN.'*

8 *"Leaving the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men."*

9 *And He was also saying to them, "You are good at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.*

10 *"For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH';*

11 *but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever you might benefit from me is Corban (that is to say, given to God),'*

12 *you no longer leave him to do anything for his father or his mother;*

13 *thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."*

14 *And after He called the crowd to Him again, He began saying to them, "Listen to Me, all of you, and understand:*

15 *there is nothing outside the man which can defile him if it goes into him; but the things which proceed out of the man are what defile the man.*

16 *["And if anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."]*

17 *And when He had left the crowd and entered the house, His disciples were asking Him about the parable.*

18 *And He said to them, "Are you lacking understanding in this way as well? Do you not understand that whatever goes into the man from outside cannot defile him,*

19 *because it does not go into his heart, but into his stomach, and goes to the sewer?"*

(Thus, He declared all foods clean.)

20 *And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man.*

<p><i>sexual immoralities, thefts, false witness, slanders.</i></p> <p>20 <i>“These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.”</i></p>	<p>21 <i>“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders, adulteries,</i></p> <p>22 <i>coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness.</i></p> <p>23 <i>“All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”</i></p>
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Memory Verse:

20 And He was saying, *“That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. 21 “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders, adulteries, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. 23 “All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”*

Mark 7:20-23

Discussion Questions

1. Has there been a time in your life where you were like Peter? You asked God to do something amazing in your life, but ended up taking your eyes off of Him and sink?
2. What do we need to consider before we ask God to do supernatural things in and through us in order that we not sink and fail?
3. What is it that you have allowed into your heart that makes its way out of you and shows your defilement?
4. How can you become clean? What needs to happen for you to be forgiven: By God? By man? By your family?