

**BLESSED HOPE**

**BHBC**



**BIBLE CHURCH**

# Blessed Hope Bible Church

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*Learning ...  
Loving ...  
Leaning ...  
Living ...  
Leading ...  
By the Word  
of God*





THE  
MIRACLES  
OF JESUS

# THREE FROM FIVE LOAVES AND TWO FISH



## THE FEEDING OF THE 5000

John 6:1-15 cf., Matt.14:13-21; Mark 6:31-44; Luke 9:10-17

# INTRODUCTION

- Apart from the resurrection, the miracle of the feeding of the 5000 is the only miracle recorded in all four gospels.
  - This miracle, like the other miracles, revealed something about Jesus—this miracle shows that Jesus has the authority and power over nature, that is He is Creator, Provider, Sustainer, and Preserver.
  - But this miracle also a purpose of teaching something to those who observe the miracle: this miracles teaches the man of God, who glorifies God, shows compassion from God to others.



- **Lesson:** The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is our **example** of glorifying God with a willingness to show **compassion** to others.
- We will look at **three features** from the feeding of the 5,000 that make the Lord our example of compassion.

**INCONVENIENCE DOES NOT HINDER THE LORD  
FROM GLORIFYING THE FATHER  
(John 6:7-13)**

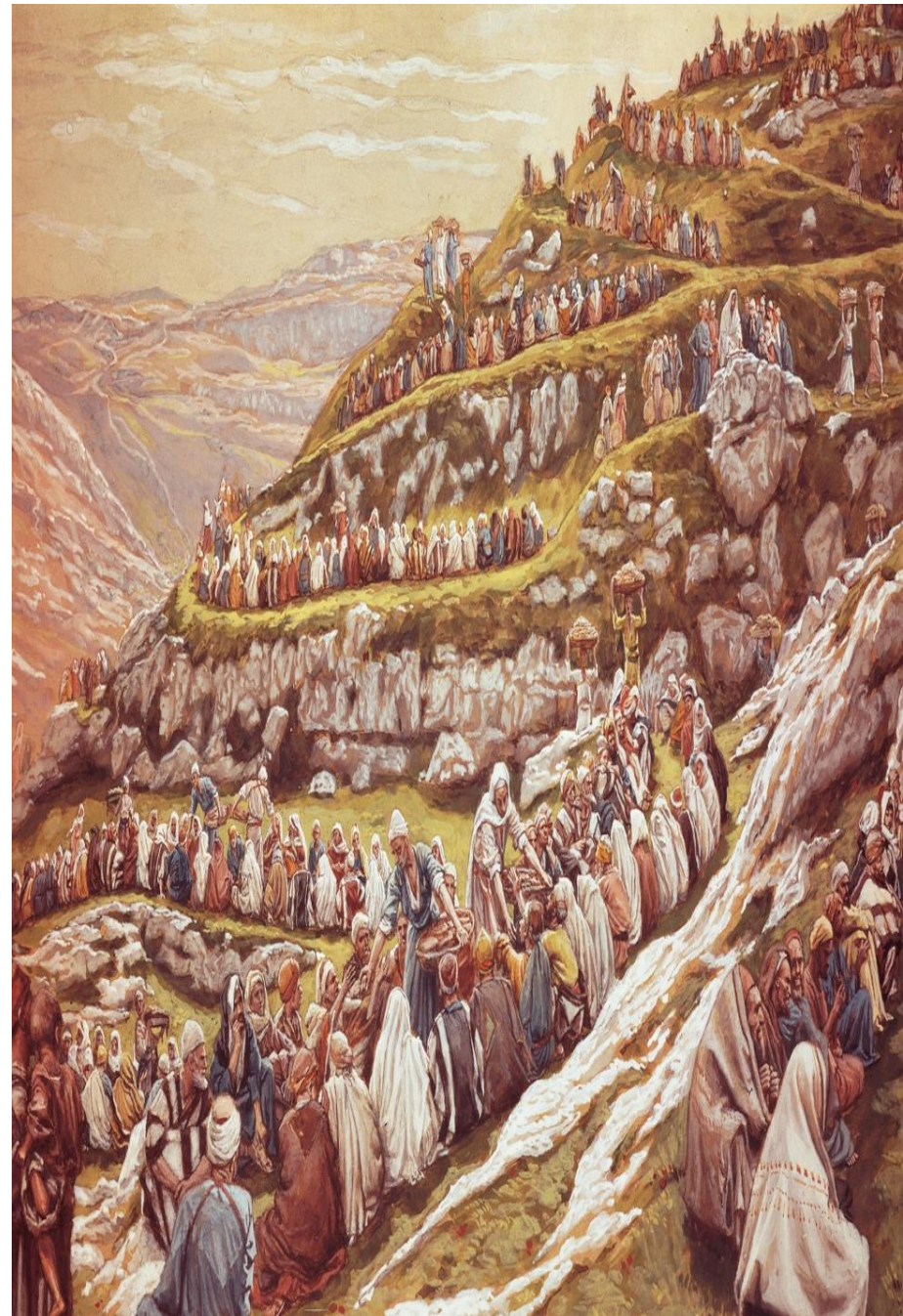




- **The Context:** A large crowd had been listening to Jesus' teaching all day and needed to get some food (cf., Mark 6:34)
- **The Challenge:** Sometimes the Lord will use the **unexpected** and the **unanticipated** to challenge our willingness to show compassion, and thereby bring glory to God.



- **The Contention:** Personal convenience gets in the way of showing compassion and thus glorifying the Lord (e.g., the Lord wanted a retreat with His disciples for some rest).
- **The Consideration:** Inconvenience should not hinder us from showing compassion to others, and thereby glorifying God (e.g., it is not a sin to take some rest, but it is not Christ-like to sacrifice compassion because it is inconvenient).



**THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE DOES NOT HINDER THE LORD FROM GLORIFYING THE FATHER. JOHN 6:7-13**



- **The Context:** Philip and Andrew showed that it was **impossible** to feed the crowd of such a large magnitude.
- **The Challenge:** Sometimes the Lord will seemingly ask the **impossible** in order to confront us with whether or not we have confidence in the Lord to supply us with what we need to do what He ask.



# Special Note: A suggested harmony:

- In John 6:5, Jesus asked Philip "where shall we buy bread that these people may eat?"
- Philip answered Jesus by saying that 200 denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them.
- Throughout the day Jesus teaches and heals the people (e.g., this should have given the disciples sufficient confidence in Jesus' ability)
- At the end of the day, the disciples come and ask Jesus to send the crowd away so that they can go into the nearby villages and buy themselves food.
- Jesus said to His disciples, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."
- The disciples respond to Jesus' request based on Philip's estimation of how much it would cost to feed the crowd. "Shall we go and buy 200 denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?" (which was financially impossible).
- Jesus ask them how much food they do have.
- Andrew presents Jesus with a lad with 5 loaves and 2 small fish (e.g., proving that it was both physically and financially impossible to feed this crowd).

## **Special Note:** Why did the disciples want to send the crowd away?

- They **realized** that they did NOT have the means to feed this crowd—they realized their inadequacy.
- They **forgot** the stories in the O.T. were God miraculously fed people.
  - The manna in the wilderness during the time of Moses
  - How the ravens brought the prophet Elijah bread and meat in the morning and evening by the Brook Cherith (1Kings 17:1-8)
  - The widow of Zarephath whose flour and oil were multiplied during the time of Elijah (1Kings 17:8-16)
  - The 20 barley loaves that fed 100 men during the time of Elisha (2Kings 4:42-44)
- They **failed to realize** that Jesus had just miraculously healed people all during that very day!!



- **The Contention:** The needs of mankind are overwhelming and expensive: there will always be the poor, sick, oppressed, ect., and mankind in all of his wisdom and energy cannot solve every problem or meet every need.
  - **Illustration:** To feed 25,000 people today with one sandwich at \$1.80 and a small drink at \$.75 would cost \$63,750 for that one meal!!
  - The disciples felt that there was no point in discussing "where" they might buy bread since they did not have enough money to buy bread even if there was a market nearby that could even supply that much food.



- Andrew is usually looked upon as the hero of the story. He brings a boy who has five barley loaves and two fish.
- This was NOT an act of faith on Andrew's part, but sarcasm to emphasize the impossibility of doing what Jesus ask them to do.



- **The Consideration:** In spite of our human inadequacy, God wants to challenge us to trust Him and be motivated with willingness to show compassion, and so bring glory to Him.
  - The Lord will not ask you to do something, and then fail to supply the resources, ability, the timing, and opportunity to do what He ask.
  - The key is NOT what you don't have, but trusting the Lord to use what you do have and supply what you don't have!





**SELF INTEREST DOES NOT HINDER THE LORD FROM  
GLORIFYING THE FATHER. JOHN 6:14, 15**





- **The Context:** In response to the feeding of the 5000, the people wanted to make Jesus king, but Jesus would not allow them to do so.
- **The Challenge:** Sometimes God will allow us to be praised by men to confront us with the motive behind what we did (e.g., was it for the Lord, or was it for our own pre-planned selfish agenda of fame, riches, or power?).

- **The Contention:** Much of what most people do has strings attached to it (e.g., personal strings, political strings, economic strings, ect.,).
  - They will “give” their lives to Jesus if He will let them do what they want to do.
  - They will “try” Jesus to see if He can put up or needs to shut up.
  - They will “serve” Jesus if there is something in it for them.





- The **Consideration:**  
The motive behind what we do should always be for the glory of God--not for what we can get out of God!!
  - The Lord has His own agenda, He will not allow anyone to force Him or manipulate Him into their own agenda.

# A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

You know about Christ; but do you trust Christ!?

Now, will you serve Christ?



RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR  
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



- 1. Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, **died** on the cross for your sin, and that He **arose** again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- 3. Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.