

PITY JOINED WITH POWER

Matthew 14:13-21

I. Christ exercises extraordinary pity toward the powerless (vv. 13-17).

II. Christ exercises extraordinary power toward the pitiful (vv. 18-21).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What did Francis Schaeffer say was the primary problem facing the church? Do you agree?
2. What is the remedy to our tendency toward self-sufficiency and self-absorption?
3. Why do you think this miracle is the only miracle of Christ (apart from the resurrection) that is recorded in all four gospels?
4. Why was Jesus seeking a desolate place? How did He respond when he found it to be a fully populated place?
5. What does it mean for Christ to be compassionate? Is He only willing to rescue us from our miserable condition, or is He also able?
6. How did this miracle point back to the OT? Why is that important?
7. How does this miraculous multiplication of bread encourage us in our sin and suffering?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. In what specific ways do I fail to rely on Christ's power and reflect His pity? What about my church?
2. Meditate on the fact that Christ is "full of pity joined with power" in light of this miracle. How does that reality both comfort and convict me?