

Lesson D3: The Miraculous Feeding of Multitudes

Matthew 14:12-21 & 15:29-39 (Mark 6:30-44 & 8:1-9; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14)

- I. **A DESOLATE PLACE** (14:13)—**physical and emotional connotations**
 - A. **A Place of Physical Barrenness**—*uninhabited, inhospitable, lacking the resources to nurture life*
 - B. **A Place of Emotional Retreat**—*escape and healing*
 1. **Solitude**—*to attend to my own soul*
 2. **Rest**—*from the constant demands of everyday life*
 - C. **A Place of Spiritual Renewal** (Hos 2:14)—*a place to meet God and know Him better*
 1. **God's Glory Revealed**
 2. **Fruit from Barren Places**
- II. **A GLORIOUS SAVIOR**
 - A. **His Compassion** (Mat 4:1-2)—*Jesus cares for the physical and spiritual needs of people.*
 1. **Attentive**—*He notices.*
 2. **Understanding** (Mat 4:1-2; Isa 53:4-5; Heb 4:15)—*He has experienced it!*
 3. **Anticipating** (Psalm 103:13-14; 1 Kings 19:7-8)—*He provides for the journey ahead.*
 - B. **His Power** (Ps 104:14-15)—*Jesus of Nazareth wields the power of God the Creator*

III. **A MIRACULOUS FEAST** (Phil 4:19)

A. **Jesus multiplied what they brought Him.**

B. **He gave it to His disciples to serve.**

1. **Jesus touches people with our hands.** (Personal Attachment)

2. **Jesus gives each of us a piece of His ministry.** We can only share what Jesus gives *us* and only *reach* the people that He assigns to us.

C. **There was more than enough.** (2 Cor 9:8)

1. **All ate.** *Jesus is for everyone*

2. **Everyone was satisfied.** (Isa 55:1-2) *Only Jesus can satisfy!*

3. **They collected an abundance of leftovers.** *God is not stingy in His provision.*

a. **Idols (addictions) will leave you hungry.**

b. **Jesus gives enough to satisfy you *and* to share with a friend!**

IV. **SIGNS OF THE MESSIAH**—The miracles point us to Jesus Himself, the promised Messiah

A. **Isaiah's Prophecy** (Mat 15:30-31; Isa 35:5-6)—*the miraculous healings*

B. **Moses' Prophecy** (Deut 18:15-19; Jn 6:14)—*the Prophet like Moses*