

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: January 1, 2023

Title: "Feeding of the 5,000: A Missionary Parable"

Text: John 6:1-15

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Jesus made seven "I AM" claims in the Gospel of John. From the last to the first: 15:5 ... 14:6 ... 11:25 ... 10:11 ... 10:9 ... 8:12 ... and finally, the first "I AM" claim Jesus made is the subject of John 6.
2. Chapter six has two parts:
  - A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bread of Life (5:1-5)
  - B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bread of Life (6:22-71)

#### THE SETTING (vss. 1-4)

The text says, "a great crowd" (6:5), and 6:10 adds a number, "about 5,000 men" (males). Mark 14:21 adds this thought: "5,000 men, besides women & children."

#### THE SITUATION (vss. 5-9)

1. The twelve disciples (collectively): "Send the crowds away."  
Jesus' reply: "YOU give them something to eat" (in all the Synoptic Gospels)
2. Jesus to Philip: "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"  
Philip's reply: "We don't have enough money; it would cost 8 months wages."
3. Andrew mentioned a boy who offered his lunch, then added, "but how far will they go among so many."

#### THE MIRACLE (vss. 10-13)

Jesus had the people sit down *in groups of hundreds & fifties* (Mark and Luke). From the little boy's lunch offered to them, our Lord fed the entire crowd, with some left over. The disciples "filled twelve baskets" with the leftovers (vs. 13).

#### THE RESULT (vss. 14-15)

1. The miracle reminded the people of what Moses \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The miracle reminded the people of what Moses \_\_\_\_\_.  
Moses' Prophecy: "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him" (Deut. 18:15).

## THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS SIGN MIRACLE (vss. 14-15)

1. We have \_\_\_\_\_ versions of it, one in each of the Gospels.
2. This repetition surely cannot be without \_\_\_\_\_.  
*Robert Glover's book, The Bible Bases of Missions. Published in 1946.*

## THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THIS MIRACLE

- The main principle: *God has graciously chosen to use \_\_\_\_\_ instruments in the task of world evangelism.*

- This principle is *illustrated* twice in our passage for today.

1. We observe the Lord Jesus accepting the offer of a little boy with \_\_\_\_\_ to feed a multitude.
2. We observe the Lord Jesus using his disciples in the \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ of the bread: "YOU give them something to eat."

## CHRIST NEEDS SOME . . .

The Apostle Paul wrote:

<sup>14</sup> How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in?  
And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?

And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

<sup>15</sup> And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written,  
"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

\*\*\*\* Romans 10:14-15 \*\*\*\*

- 1) Some to \_\_\_\_\_ (cp. Rom. 10:15b)
- 2) Some to \_\_\_\_\_ (cp. Rom. 10:15a)
- 3) Some to \_\_\_\_\_ (cp. Matt. 9:37-38)

## THE WEAK LINK

What "things" *DERAIL* our commitment to Christ, to His cause?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (see John 14:6).
- 2) Misplaced \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Confused \_\_\_\_\_.