

Food Ministry

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Love Ministry / Food; Jesus feeds the 5000; Ministry / Matthew 14:16

Perhaps we can multiply food like Jesus did but we do have the resourced to do something similar. How did Jesus' food ministry go? How can we develop a welfare ministry like Jesus

- Jesus was tired
- The disciples were tired
- First missionary tour
- Jesus said,

Mark 6:31 *ESV*

And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.

- While going to rest
 - news arrives..
- Jesus cousin

- John the Baptist
 - murdered.
- At this time,
 - receives the news:

Matthew 14:12 ESV

And his disciples came and took the body and buried it, and they went and told Jesus.

- Should have been
 - time of joy.
 - Spirit's power
- Actually, time of sorrow
 - time of questions.
- Jesus longed
 - time alone with
 - His disciples.

Matthew 14:13 **ESV**

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

- Jesus longs to be alone
 - tired
 - sad
 - needs quality time
 - explanations
- Instead,
 - people show up
 - middle of nowhere.
 - find them!
- If it was me
 - or you
 - tempted to
 - go away.

- Jesus just can't

- Why?

Matthew 14:14 **ESV**

When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

- Compassion controls him
 - you want to
 - be more like Christ?
- Pray for compassion
 - our selfish society
 - compassion missing.
- Again pass the day
 - healing and ministering.
- Evening Coming quickly...

Matthew 14:15 **ESV**

Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

- people today are hungry.

- Physically yes

- Spiritually hungry.

- Seeking for bread.
 - Seeking for food banks
 - we need them.

- Seeking for Spiritual food
 - If we don't feed them
 - Someone will

- but it won't be nourishing.

- In response to the request
 - “send them away”
 - Jesus says:

Matthew 14:16 ESV

But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.”

Give Them Something To Eat

- I pondered this.
- Question;
 - Why does he say this?
- Jesus intentional.

John 6:6 ESV

He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.

- To test them...
 - Test them for what?

- Faith.
- Disciples are tired
 - need rest.

John 6:7 ESV

Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little.”

- Philip fails the test....
- Correct answer,
 - Okay, Lord,
 - tell me what to do.
- Philip often focused
 - on the physical.
- Looking at us.

- Auburn
 - How to feed so many?
 - So much school supplies?
 - Such money for church?
- Looking without
 - eyes of faith!
- Looking at us
 - our ability.
- God can't create miracle.
- Disciples focus on
 - inability.
- Jesus changes question.

What Do You Have?

Mark 6:38 ESV

And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”

- Moses at the Bush
 - Can't do it.

What's in your Hand?

- Don't tell me
 - what you can't do.
 - I'm God.
- Tell me what you have
 - say yes.
 - I'll make up the rest...

John 6:8-9 ESV

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, “There is a boy

here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?”

- I have something
 - but it's not enough...

What Are They For So Many

- Message of today.
 - Satan's message.
- I want to serve but,
 - too shy
 - don't know enough
 - too busy
 - too something
- **Jesus says:**
 - **STOP LOOKING AT YOU**

- That question
 - just a test.

- Enough faith
 - trust God
 - **with what you DO have.**

- Jesus speak to those
 - faith is small
 - time is little
 - energy is low
 - compassion meager
 - bank account empty

- Use what you have
 - then just watch
 - Me multiple

John 6:10 ESV

Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number.

Bread and Fish

- Simple food
 - natural food
 - poor people food
 - food of need
- Not gratify desire for
 - rich food
 - luxuries of world
- Provide need

Feeding 5000 Today

- **I have a dream**

- Auburn Food Pantry
- Empowering People
 - giving food
 - but more.
- Provide
 - Healthful Food
 - Cooking Classes
 - Gardening
 - Hunting Fishing

I have a Dream!

- Healthy Self-Reliance
 - Care Package with
 - YouTube cooking video
- Spend time with people

- show them why
 - change in lifestyle

I have a Dream!

- They will see
 - we care
 - them personally
- They'll see
 - we listen
 - have compassion
 - give hearts
- They'll want something more

I have a Dream!

Appeal

- Do you want to dream with me?
- Want to be ready so serve?
- Feed the hungry?
 - Physically
 - Spiritually