**R1018 Rumination for July 28 2024**

The **T**heme: **The Miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *So the men sat down, in number about five thousand* Jn. 6:10

The **T**hots:

Introduction: **O**f all the Lord’s Miracles recorded in the Gospels, this is the **O**nly **O**ne recorded in all Four.

1. The **P**eople were on their Way to Jerusalem to keep the **P**assover **F**east. Jn. 6:2-4

*And ﻿the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.* 6:4

1. They **F**ollowed Jesus because of what He **P**erformed, not because of Who His **P**erson Was! 6:2

*A great multitude followed Him, ﻿because they saw His miracles which He did on them that were diseased.*

1. With the Women and Children, the **P**urported number could have been 10-12 thousand altogether as the number of only the men was already 5000 – *So ﻿the men sat down, in number about* ***five thousand*****Jn. 6:10**
2. **The Multitude Before Jesus** –***Jesus then ﻿lifted up His eyes, and saw a great company come unto Him***
3. They were **H**elpless – Multitude in number; yet Helpless in knowing where to obtain Bread. Jn. 6:5

*He saith unto ﻿Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?*

1. They were **H**ungry – *for they have nothing to eat.* Mk. 6:36
2. **The Men (and women and children) Around Jesus.** **Jn. 6:5-9** (#3 above)

**C**onsider the **R**eactions of the Disciples to the **C**hallenge of **C**hrist – *Give ye them to eat.* Mt. 14:16

 **-The Disciples’ Three Barriers**

1. The Barrier of Appa**rent** Insensitivi**ty** – *Send them away.* Mk. 6:36- 37

Note: The Disciples **S**aw the **S**ame People, the **S**ame Need as Jesus **S**aw:

1. The Disciples’ **R**eaction – *Send them away, that they may go into the country round about,*

*and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.* Mk. 6:36

1. Jesus’ **R**esponse – *Jesus, when He came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, ﻿because they were as sheep not having a shepherd:* 6:34
* [Hellen Keller: *The greatest tragedy is not Blindness or Deafness, but to have Sight and have no Vision”*]
1. The Disciples’ **R**esponsibility *- He… said unto them, Give ye them to eat* 6:37
2. The Barrier of Transpa**rent** Insecuri**ty** – Jn. 6:5, 6

*When Jesus then ﻿lifted up His eyes, and saw a great company come unto Him, He saith unto ﻿Philip,*

*Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this He said ﻿to prove him:*

*for He Himself knew what He would do.*

* Jesus was Identi**fied** with His disciples.
* The Multitude could be Satis**fied** in Jesus – Philip + Jesus = Solution to all needs!
1. The Barrier of Evid**ent** Insufficien**cy –** Jn. 6:9

*There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two ﻿small fishes: but what are they among so many?*

1. God never asks for what we do not have, but for what we have.

Hence, the need to yield what we have and what we are.

1. “*Little is much in the hands of God.”*

1. **The Miracle by Jesus.**
2. Christ **B**egins – The Starting Point was with the little boy. Hence, begin with “Me”. Jn. 6:9

*There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two ﻿small fishes*

1. Christ **B**urdens – Christ Lays a **B**urden on the Little **B**oy to give of what he has. See above.
2. Christ **B**reaks.Mk. 6:41

*When He had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, He looked up to heaven, and blessed,*

*and brake the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them*

* The things that the **B**oy gave must first be **B**roken – never be afraid of God’s Breaking Process
* Compare how Moses was **B**roken through a period of 40 years **B**efore God could use him.
* God **B**reaks us down to **B**uild us up.
1. Christ **B**estows Mk. 6:41

*And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, He looked up to heaven,*

*and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them;*

*and the two fishes divided He among them all.*

* The Disciples gave out what Jesus gave to them, though each one had a little,

 yet it was sufficient to meet the needs of all.

* Grace keeps on multiplying when it is given away. Cf. II Cor. 12:9

*And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for ﻿My strength is made perfect in weakness.*

*Most gladly therefore ﻿will I rather glory in my infirmities, that ﻿the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

1. Christ **B**lesses. Mk. 6:41

 *And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, He looked up to heaven,*

***and blessed****, and brake the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them;*

 *and the two fishes divided He among them all.*

*Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.*

*Within the sacred page, I seek Thee Lord My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word.…*

 Mary A. Lathbury, 1877 & Alexander Groves, 1913

**Points To Ponder:** *Do Miracles still happen today?* ***R****ecall the* ***R****ecent failed attempt to assassinate*

 *Donald Trump on 17 July when the Assassin’s Bullet missed his head by centimetres!*