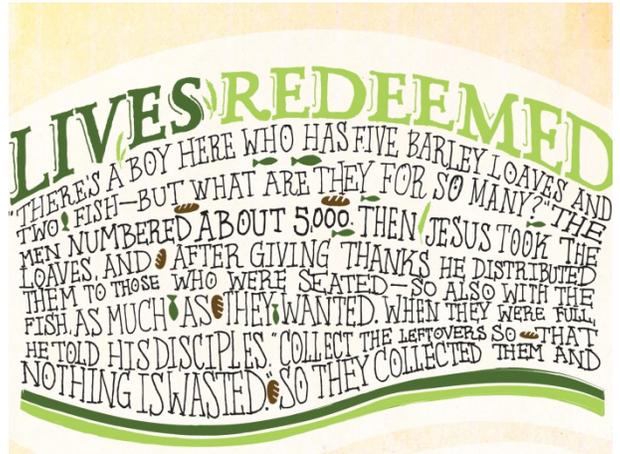


For the Week of October 24-30, 2011
Theme: Satisfaction Found

Passage Outline:

1. **Jesus Provides** (John 6:5-13)
2. **Jesus Satisfies** (John 6:35-36)
3. **Jesus Secures** (John 6:37-40)



What This Lesson Is About:

Jesus uses the miracle of feeding 5,000 men plus women and children (perhaps as many as 20,000 people total) to teach that He is the Bread of life who alone can satisfy our spiritual hunger.

How This Lesson Can Impact Your Life:

Only Jesus can satisfy your spiritual hunger.

I. Jesus Provides - John 6:5-13

- a. Multitudes of people continually followed Jesus.
- b. John places this event on a day during the Passover season, connecting to how God provided for His people when they left Egypt (Ex. 12). _____
- c. Jesus saw an opportunity to teach His disciples a valuable lesson about His power to provide _____.
- d. Jesus asked Philip a question to examine Philip's faith in Him to meet the needs of food for the people.
- e. Philip's answer was pessimistic, showing that he had placed severe limits on Jesus' power to provide food.
- f. What do you look at first? _____

- g. For that reason, Philip called the task to feed such a huge group _____
 - i. A year's wages would be required to buy the amount of bread that would be needed.
 - ii. Even that much bread would only be enough to give each person a morsel.
- h. Like Philip, we have a tendency to put limits on what Jesus can do. When we face a challenge that's bigger than our resources, we find ourselves thinking only about what we alone can provide.
 - i. When we give in to that tendency, we show that we have forgotten that Jesus can do more than we could ever imagine
 - ii. **Ephesians 3:20-21**
²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.
- i. Andrew finds a boy who has five barley loaves and two fish.
 - i. Poor people ate barley bread.
 - ii. The notion that so little food could be shared among so many people was ridiculous.
 - iii. Bread Making in Jesus' Day: _____

- j. With the disciples' attention on the seemingly impossible challenge, Jesus showed them that He had the power to provide.
- k. Jesus and His disciples gave out the food and everyone had more than enough to eat.
- l. Points of Emphasis:**
 - i. We cannot limit what Jesus will do with what we bring to Him.
 - ii. We need simply to make what we have available to Him, even if we think what we bring doesn't amount to much.
 - iii. We can count on Him to take it and multiply it for His purposes.
 - iv. Jesus can be trusted to meet our needs.

What grade would you give the following on their tests of faith?

Spiritual Exercise #1

- ___ Philip?
- ___ Andrew?
- ___ The Little Boy?
- ___ Yourself, for the most recent time your faith was challenged?

Prayerfully consider how God's strength can help you get a better "grade" next time, and thank Him that our shortcomings are forgiven through Jesus!

II. **Jesus Satisfies** - John 6:35-36

- a. After the miracle, Jesus sends His disciples across the lake and then Jesus withdrew to a mountain for prayer. During the night, Jesus came to His disciples' safety walking on the water and then stills the storm on the Sea of Galilee.
- b. Later that morning, after people found Jesus again, He tells them that believing in Him would give them bread for eternal life.
- c. They tell Jesus that Moses gave manna to the people while they wandered about in the wilderness (Ex. 16). What does the word "Manna" mean? _____
- d. Jesus says, "No, it was not Moses, but God who gave the bread from heaven.
- e. Jesus declares that He is the **Bread of Life**. With this declaration, Jesus asserted that He alone could satisfy a person's spiritual hunger.
 - i. Have you ever been hungry, I mean really hungry? What does that feel like?
 - ii. Because of our sinful natures, we are born with a spiritual hunger, an aching emptiness for spiritual satisfaction.
 - iii. Ordinary bread satisfies only for a little while, the Bread of Life will last for eternity.
 - iv. A truly satisfying life that is full and complete comes only from Jesus.
- f. How do we receive the Bread of life?
 - i. In verse 35, Jesus tells us that we must **come to Him** and **believe in Him**.
 - ii. "Coming to Jesus" means taking that life-transforming step prompted by the Holy Spirit toward Jesus.
 - iii. "Believing in Jesus" means more than simply accepting some facts about Him. It means that we place our trust in Him to carry us into Heaven.
- g. Illustration: "High Wire over Niagara Falls"

What does it mean to “believe” in Jesus? (check all that apply)

- Agreeing that Jesus really lived and taught;
- Agreeing that Jesus is the Son of God;
- Placing your trust and confidence in Jesus;
- Obeying Jesus’ commands;
- Finding your life and delight in Jesus;

Spiritual Exercise #2

III. Jesus Secures - John 6:37-40

- a. Jesus says everyone who comes to Him can rest assured that He will not turn them away. Nothing will ever make Jesus discard us or cast us out of His presence. _____
- b. Jesus adds that our Heavenly Father is directly involved in making sure that everyone who comes to Jesus has eternal life. Jesus came in order to do the will **of** the Father.
- c. Our Heavenly Father is involved in giving us eternal life. He has taken the initiative to make salvation possible. That’s why Jesus came to us. Because the Father wanted to provide salvation for all people everywhere, He sent His Son to die on the cross.
- d. Why would God the Father do this? _____

- e. Jesus assures us that once we receive Him, He will hold on to us for eternity.
- f. Once we receive Him, we can know for certain that He will never ever leave us.

According to John 10:28-29, “nothing can ever snatch the believer out of the Savior’s hands!”

Mark the following statements with a “T” (true) or “F” (false):

Because my salvation in Jesus is secure:

- Nothing can separate me from the love of Christ.
- I can sin all I want!
- God will forgive me if I repent.
- I want to please Him by obeying His commands.
- I don’t have to go to Church.

Spiritual Exercise #3

Biblical Truths of This Lesson

- 1) When we place our trust in Jesus Christ, we can live in the certainty that He will provide us with what we need so we will live in contentment.
- 2) Being spiritually satisfied in Christ, we will never be spiritually hungry or thirsty again.
- 3) Christ welcomes us when we place our faith in Him, and we can count on Him never to discard us.
- 4) What people long for in their search for something to satisfy their spiritual hunger, they will find only when they receive Christ.