

**Text:** John 6:1-14

**Meaning:** Jesus fed the Passover meal to 5000 plus people

**Big Idea:** Jesus is the bread of life and the lamb slain for us

**Objective:** I want the hearers to partake of Christ

**Theme:** Hunger

<https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/sermons/certain-curious-calculations-about-loaves-and-fishes/#flipbook/>

**10 Gifts NOT to get mom on Mother's Day:**

1. Weight Watchers Membership
2. Household cleaning appliance
3. Taco Bell Gift Card
4. Any Type of Car Maintenance
5. Anti-Aging Cream
6. A "Mom" Tattoo on your body
7. A lame card with nothing in it
8. Breakfast in Bed
9. Cookbook
10. NOTHING

**READ JOHN 6:1-14**

**Feeding of the 5000** – is the only miracle alongside the RESURRECTION that is listed in **ALL 4 GOSPELS**

This miracle resulted in the people trying to take Jesus by force to make Him King – so the people directly understood this miracle to be a direct declaration that He is the Messiah. They simply misunderstood the purpose in the original coming of the Messiah.

The question is – what is it about this miracle that caused them to see it as a prophetic statement that He was the Messiah come to save Israel?

**Passover** – Jesus gathers the crowd and sits them down for a meal together – on Passover. Passover is a memorial meal where the Hebrews remember when the death angel passed over their ancestors and delivered them from Egyptian slavery. God told the people to put the blood of an unblemished lamb on the doorposts and their homes and when the death angel saw the blood on the door it would Passover them. This was a beautiful picture of what Jesus would ultimately do on the cross by shedding His blood to satisfy the wrath of God toward us. They were also told to eat unleavened bread in preparation for the journey ahead, which went on for a week after the Passover which is known as the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

So, Jesus, much like Moses, goes up on the mountain and provides bread for the people. Moses too, went up on the mountain and received the law of God to bring down for the people and manna came down from heaven for their sustenance in the wilderness.

So – the people see Jesus do this miracle on the Passover, on the mountain, with bread – and they recognize – THIS IS THE MESSIAH!

THE FOLLOWING DAY – we read later in this chapter that they come back to Jesus and say, "our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and that Moses gave them bread to eat."

JESUS SAYS – WRONG! Moses didn't give them bread – GOD DID!

Then Jesus makes one of his 7 famous "I AM" statements and says,

**"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE!"**

The people misunderstood and thought that it was Moses that gave sustenance – that Moses and the law of God he brought down from the mountain gave them life – Jesus says unequivocally "that is not the case" Moses didn't give them bread – God did.

Also, following Moses left the people wandering in the wilderness. It was **JOSHUA** who led them into the promised land! Joshua's name in Hebrew – **YESHUA, ANOTHER FORM OF THE NAME JESUS!**

Another question here is WHERE IS THE LAMB? At the Passover the people didn't eat bread and fish – they ate BREAD and A LAMB?

Don't miss the picture – **JESUS IS THE LAMB OF GOD WHO WAS SLAIN FOR US!** Later in this same chapter is where Jesus made the famous statement – **“UNLESS YOU EAT MY FLESH AND DRINK MY BLOOD YOU HAVE NO LIFE IN YOU.”**

What He is declaring to them is – **I AM THE PASSOVER LAMB!** Historically Jesus was crucified at the same time that priests at the Jewish Temple were killing the lambs for the sacrifice.

So – this miracle is so much more than Jesus feeding some hungry people – this is a direct prophetic statement that He was and is the Messiah who would give His body and shed His blood for the atonement of our sin! He is the sinless, unblemished Lamb crucified for us – and He is the only one who can give us life!

#### **4 statements to take to heart:**

##### **JESUS IS THE BREAD OF LIFE (V.35)**

Christ makes this famous statement the next day as the crowd presses Him for teaching from the miracle. Jesus is our daily sustenance. Just like manna from Heaven was given daily to fill the people in Egypt, so too we need Jesus every day. He taught us to pray “give us this day our daily bread”

#### **How do you get daily bread?**

- **GET IN THE WORD UNTIL IT GETS IN YOU**
- **PRAY FERVENTLY AND UNCEASINGLY**

Think PRESENCE OVER PERFORMANCE.

People are hungry for so much more than what this world has to offer. Our hunger can only be satisfied in Christ.

##### **WHERE GOD GUIDES HE PROVIDES (V. 11)**

Jesus tests Phillip here by asking about giving bread to the entire crowd.

Phillip is Baptist – We don't have the money for that?!

Phillip – based on our analysis and our forecasting – our projection is that we will have a catastrophic shortfall.

SOME PEOPLE ARE GREAT AT COUNTING THE MONEY THEY DON'T HAVE! Scarcity mentality and the mind of faith cannot co-exist.

Anytime God calls His people to invest in Kingdom work by faith the mathematicians and statisticians come out and tell you why it can't be done.

ANYTIME GOD CALLS YOU TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM HE ALREADY HAS THE PROVISION WAITING FOR THE SACRIFICE

THERE IS NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR GOD!

By the way – just like Philip here God tests us, and one of the greatest tests of our faith is through giving.

Nothing says Jesus is your Provider like giving! In fact, it is proof that you truly believe He is!

##### **NOTHING IS EVER LOST ON JESUS (V. 12)**

Every penny we give away to ministry and every hour we invest in ministry to others always come back to us.

IN ACTUALITY WE NEVER GIVE UP ANYTHING – WE ALWAYS GAIN WHEN WE GIVE TO CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM WORK

Every prayer, every conversation, every humble act of service, every penny given to Kingdom work – it all comes back to you!

**Jim Elliot**

*He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.*

**GIVE UP YOUR LUNCH**

There are 2 heroes in this account. Jesus is ALWAYS the SUPERHERO of every story. But the second hero in this story is the little boy who gave up his lunch. He had 5 barley loaves and 2 fish and was willing to part with it all so Jesus could give the crowd the gospel.

**Barley loaves** – these were what poor people ate. Only more affluent people could afford to purchase and use wheat flour.

Never discount the significance of your gift to the Lord. Jesus took one little boy's lunch and fed thousands of people with it. God can take any gift given to him in humble worship and multiply it 100's of times over.

**THE KINGDOM OF GOD DOESN'T JUST GROW THROUGH THE LARGE GIFTS OF RICH DONORS OR THE POWERFUL MESSAGES OF SEMINARY TRAINED PREACHERS – IT GROWS THROUGH THE MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF SMALL SACRIFICIAL GIFTS AND MINISTRY EFFORTS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.**

**That's how it grows; in fact, that's how it was MEANT TO GROW!**