

WARM-UP QUESTIONS: Have you heard of people receiving financial provision in difficult situations in ways they could not explain? Has that happened to you? If so, how did God provide?

READ: John 6:4-14

FOCUS: Impossible situations are opportunities for supernatural provision.

OBSERVE:

- The miracle of the feeding of 5000 shows us that Jesus is greater than Moses, who the Jews in our story celebrated as the one God used to bring deliverance from enslavement in Egypt and to beg God to send bread from heaven.
- Jesus notices and initiates the feeding of the 5000 with Philip, His disciple. The motivation wasn't the complaint of the people like it was during Moses' time, but it was the compassion of Jesus Christ. Jesus is aware of our needs even when the situation seems impossible.
- Jesus involves His disciples in the miracle by trusting Him and by giving Him the little they possess. Andrew shows this when he finds a little boy with five loaves and two fish. Unlike Moses, who prayed to God, Jesus is the source of power; He took the bread and fish in his hands and multiplied them. When we submit what we have to Jesus, He can change our lack into provision.
- When the miracle was performed, there were 12 baskets full left over. This is in contrast to the bread that the Jews ate during the time of Moses, which was only for that specific day. Jesus provides more than enough for us to have our needs met and to be generous. Jesus is not only a prophet like Moses; He is God, the bread of life and the source of eternal life.

REFLECT:

- How would your life be different if you could view situations of lack as an opportunity for God to provide supernaturally?
- Have you experienced a miracle of God's provision in your life? Did the experience draw you closer to God?

TAKE ACTION:

- If you lack financial resources and need God's supernatural provision, take a moment to look up scriptures dealing with finances and pray and declare them. (Scripture ie. Philippians 4:18-19; 2 Corinthians 8:9 & 9:8, Deuteronomy 8:18, etc.)
- If you are in a place of financial abundance, read and pray 1 Timothy 6:17-19.
- Whether you are in abundance or lack, consider what sacrifice God would have you make for his kingdom's advancement and give financially. (ie. vision fund & debt free 2023)

PRAY: Heavenly Father, open our eyes to see that You provide even in our impossible situations of lack. Through Jesus Christ, we have abundant provision for every need, including our deepest need to know You. Holy Spirit, help us to follow You not because of what we receive from You but because You are the only one who gives us life. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

