

From “Only” to Plenty

Mark 6:30-44

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Read: **Mark 6:30-44**
- B. **Matthew 14:17-18** - “We have here **ONLY** five loaves of bread and two fish, they answered. ‘Bring them here to me,’ He said.”
- C. The only miracle, other than the resurrection of Christ, recorded in all four gospel accounts, is the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 men plus women and children. Matthew 14 . . . Mark 6 . . . Luke 9 . . . John 6
1. This seems to indicate its importance.
 2. The disciples emphasize to the Lord that they have “only” some bread and fish.
 3. But Jesus tells them to bring what they have . . . And in the hands of the Master, “only” soon becomes “plenty.”
- D. In so great a crowd of people, it is providential that the lad with the five loaves and two fish was found. A little boy gives his small lunch to Jesus, **sacrificing what he cannot afford for a need he cannot supply.**
1. But his gift becomes very significant because Jesus **chooses to multiply, not create.**
 2. Is that any different today? **The Lord still desires to multiply what He has already given us to meet the many needs around us.** Example of this church building)
 3. When we **release** all that we have into the hands of Jesus, things we cannot explain begin to happen.
- E. Notice that Jesus gave thanks . . . And at that moment there is enough food.
1. When we give thanks, we are acknowledging that what God has supplied is truly enough.
 2. It is faith in Jesus and gratitude to God that turns “**only**” into “**plenty.**”
 3. We cannot out-give God’s generosity.
 4. We cannot have a greater need than God can supply.
 5. We need to learn that when we bring our gifts to God in faith and in gratitude, God will supply them to meet every need.
 6. Myrtle Beach building. Gave the four acres and the building (350,000) and God gave four acre sand a new building (4 to 6 million dollars) at no cost to the brethren. We gave the “only” and God gave the “plenty.”
- F. Seven things are observed in our lesson text:
1. There is a **NEED.**
 2. There is **SOMETHING** that can be used.
 3. There is a **GIVER.**
 4. There is a **MULTIPLIER.**

5. There are some **DISTRIBUTORS**.
 6. There are some **RECEIVERS**.
 7. There is a **BLESSING** in the outcome.
- G. Relate the above items to the lesson text.
- H. **Proverbs 3:9** – “Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase
- I. Observation: A **YOUTH** provided the loaves & fishes.
1. Never underestimate the power of Christian youth.
 2. **1 Timothy 4:12** – “Let no man despise your youth; but be an example of the believers, in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”
 3. **Ecclesiastes 12:1** – “Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, “I have no pleasure in them”:

CONCLUSION:

- A. Hymns express similar thoughts.
 1. Little is much when God is in it!
 2. I surrender all
- B. **Proverbs 3:9** – “Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase.
- C. Jesus can turn “only” into “plenty” . . . And “plenty” is sufficient in God’s sight.
- D. Listening friends . . .
 1. Some have the “only” because they do not launch out in faith for the “plenty.”
 2. Some have the “only” because they will not give it to Jesus to multiply into “plenty.”
 3. It takes faith to give your all . . . But that is necessary in order for God to reward you with the plenty.
 4. **God will multiply what you will supply!**
 5. Are you willing to honor God with your possessions?
- E. God will not give you less than you need nor more than you need . . . It is faith in Jesus and gratitude to God that turns “**only**” into “**plenty**.” May your “plenty” be a blessing to others and bring glory to God.
- F. **God’s Plan for Man’s Salvation**