

Sermon Reflections

The Need to Feed (Matthew 14:13-21)

Summary: Follow and remain with King Jesus, because He is God, the only One you need.

Follow and Remain with Jesus Because ...

1. He Has the Compassion You Need (vv. 13-14)

- Our Lord is a God of compassion. Read Psalm 103. Make a list of the ways that David describes the compassion of our Lord in this Psalm. Note in verse 13 that the Lord shows compassion to us in the same way that a godly father shows compassion to his children. What are some ways that a godly father does this? How does the compassion of Jesus compare with that of the father in the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:20?
- We have already seen the compassion of Jesus in this gospel (see Matt 9:36). Compare the compassion of Jesus in 9:36 with His compassion in 14:14. How is the compassion in these two verses similar? How are they different? How would you rate your own compassion for those people who need the gospel (i.e. without Christ) in 9:36 and for those who are sick (i.e. without physical health) in 14:14?
- Do you recognize the Lord's compassion to you on a regular basis? How have you been aware of His compassion to you today?

2. He Has the Provisions You Need (vv. 15-18)

- Jesus knew that the disciples did not have enough food to feed the crowd. But He wanted them to state it plainly so the record would be clear that a miracle by His power occurred. In what areas of your life are you prone to 'panic' when you realize that you need something important that you do not have? In those situations, is your first typical response to the 'panic' to turn to God for His provision and trust Him? Or is it to turn to others? Or is it to turn to yourself? Read Deuteronomy Chapter 8. How would knowing and applying the truths in this chapter help you the next time 'panic' occurs?

3. He Has the Divine Power You Need (vv. 19-21)

- The disciples realized that they had no power in and of themselves to meet the needs of the crowd (v.17). But Jesus did have this power and He used His power and then He used the disciples as a 'channel' of blessings to meet the need for food for thousands of people. In what ways have you seen God use His power and use you as a 'channel' of blessings to family, friends, or neighbors? How about to others at Grace Bible Church? Are you willing to trust Him this week to use the power of the gospel (Romans 1:16) and proclaim the good news of Christ to someone you love?