

## **Luke 9:10-17 – The feeding of the 5000**

Is Jesus really enough? Can he give our souls all that we need? Should we look for someone else? Many people do not believe that Christ will be enough. They continue to live in sin. They do not believe he can take care of them. Here is his answer to them.

### **1. Jesus' compassion (v10-11)**

The disciples were tired – they had travelled and preached from town to town. They had served faithfully. Have you ever become tired because of continual service to God? Also, some bad news had come – John the Baptist was dead. He had been a close friend to some of them, and was a loved man of God. Jesus knew that the disciples needed rest – so he took them to a quiet place. Jesus knows what we need, always. There are two sins to avoid: some people always work and never rest because they are only thinking about gaining more money and things. Others are lazy and do not use their energy and strength that God has given them. Yet, when they went to rest, many people followed them. Those people were hungry to learn more from Jesus. Often God changes our plans. We should always be ready to serve when a new need comes. Jesus cancelled the rest, and used the opportunity to help those needy people. He had pity on them (Mark 6:34) because they were living in darkness. He taught them about his kingdom. He welcomed them, even though they came when his disciples were tired. We also should remember that people really need to hear about Jesus, his death and resurrection. We might be tired – but without him, they are lost.

### **2. Jesus' test (v12-14)**

The day went on long. The people were hungry, and listened to Jesus' teaching until the evening. Are we hungry? The place was remote; it was not easy to get food, as it was far from big towns. The disciples came and told Jesus that he needed to send the people away. His reply surprised them – they should get some food. How? Jesus often asks “impossible” things. He tells us to turn from darkness to light, and to change our lives. He tells us to trust him with everything, for now and eternity. He tells the church to disciple all the nations (Matthew 28:18-21). But, when he gives a command, he is also giving a promise. He tells us that he will be with us; with him all things are possible. He died and rose and sat at the right hand of God. He can never let us down. But the question is – do we trust him? Do we believe that we can leave the life of sin and totally trust Jesus instead? Do we trust his promises to us? The disciples were only judging with their own eyes – they could not see enough food, or get enough money to follow his command. But we should instead weigh using spiritual eyes. We should remember the gospel that Jesus loves us and gave himself for us and will never forget us. We should remember his power and glory. Then we need not fear or doubt.

### **3. Jesus' provision (v15-17)**

Jesus told them to sit – but he did not yet tell them what he would do. They obeyed him, even though they could not see any food; that is how we should obey Jesus too. He took what they had brought; Jesus uses our small offerings. He provided so much that twelve baskets were left over. Jesus has so much power, mercy and love that even if the whole world comes to him he will still have enough. Nothing is too hard for him and nobody too lost. So, taste and see – come to him! Give what you have in serving and following him, and he will multiply it. Nobody ever found that Jesus was not able. The true problem is that few weigh up their situation with faith in him. Do you?