

We are Called to Share
(Matthew 14:13-21)
Sermon August 13, 2017

We read that, one day, Jesus decided to take a day off because he was tired and quite upset with many things. He decided to go far away from the village to a quiet place, to pray and meditate in His Father's presence. But some people heard that Jesus was in their area and followed him, bringing him ill people to heal.

Jesus decided not to take that day off. He turned towards the people and healed them. Then He started to preach them the Gospel. He was busy with that large crowd until late afternoon.

It was late afternoon. Jesus was still healing and teaching people about God and His Love. These people were very poor and they did not eat all day long. For this, the disciples were concerned.

The disciples said to Jesus: *"This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowd away, so they can go to the village and buy themselves some food."* (Matthew 14:15)

Here, we are witnessing a dialogue between the disciples and Jesus. The disciples were coming up with their suggestion. Jesus answered them with one sentence.

The disciples were coming up again with other ideas. Jesus' answer is very short again. He says only one sentence.

Jesus was thinking and feeling differently.

Please take a few moments and check your feelings and actions.

- Were you able to help somebody this week with good advice, love and passion?
- Did you help only those who helped you before or those too who came to see you for the first time?

Let's continue with the communication between Jesus and His disciples. As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food." Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." How come?

These disciples became irritable with the crowd. They became impatient and did not understand why Jesus was spending so much time with the crowd. If you might find yourself irritated or frustrated with a situation, that will be a sign for you that you are spending less time with God and more time with your own thoughts and feelings.

The disciples did not ask Jesus for a resolution because they did not take Him **seriously**.

Jesus did not rely on these people's money, not even on their faith, but on HIS LOVE, which is always a GIVING LOVE.

Today Jesus wants to teach us that those who are focusing only on visible things won't be able to resolve everything in their lives.

What kind of advice would you give to the disciples in those moments?

- Guys, the best thing you can do is not think, not wonder, not imagine and not obsess. Just breath, ... and have faith in Jesus that He will do His very best

The disciples said: “Jesus, are you not thinking? We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” - that’s NOTHING and are You, Jesus, asking us to feed them? We have brains.”

Jesus said: “You have no faith – and I have POWER” Jesus did not know how many people were there. If He knew, then why did He say things like that – “You give them something to eat”.

Dear beloved, it is very important to know who our Lord Jesus Christ is, and how important He should be for us in our personal lives. It is very important to listen to Him and what He wants to teach us again and again.

He wanted to teach His disciples that **the reality is more than we can see**. The disciples were focusing only on visible things: 10,000 people, they are hungry, and it’s getting dark soon.

- They have their own lives and they don’t want to care for the crowd.
- All day long they witnessed how miraculously Jesus healed those people and now it did not cross their minds that Jesus can do something else to feed them.
- They did not take seriously that Jesus is GOD.
- They had not really realized that Jesus has POWER.

Don’t think ONLY with your brain.

- Your brain will say: there is no resolution

Think with FAITH

- Jesus will say: I have power

To believe it means:

- to count on GOD, and
- to count with His Presence.

Jesus did not rely on these people’s money, not even on their faith, but on HIS LOVE, which is always a GIVING LOVE.

When we pray, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine...in His own time and His own way. Jesus did not rely on these people’s money, not even on their faith, but on HIS LOVE, which is always a GIVING LOVE.

There are 10,000 people: no food, no money but JESUS is HERE.

Only those who recognize God’s unlimited grace and power will acknowledge that: ‘Lord I have nothing but You can do everything’. We have to have faith if we want to think totally differently, to say: ‘put God first and you’ll never be last’.

He directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

I see the disciples carrying the bread and sharing it with the crowd. It was not their bread. It was God's bread. They just got the loaves to share with others.

Are you familiar with this type of service, that everything you have belongs to God? You got everything from God, and God is asking you to share and care. You don't have to share always money from your wallet. You can share a good word, a kind smile, a gentle touch, Bible verse: these won't cost you money. Probably you don't have more than he has, but you still can share what you have.

Remember, you **never** give from your own. You **always** give from what GOD gave you. And if you are greedy with those things God gave you, then God can take them away from you in a second. If others cannot count on your help, why are you expecting God to help you? Don't forget, you are only a servant who has to pass on God's gifts.

Before you leave this place today, please make a commitment that you don't want to live a selfish life anymore, you don't want to tell God what HE has to do, but you will pray that God's spirit would guide you to live an honest life. If you have a Bible that's falling apart, you'll have a Life that's not!

This is the word of the Lord.

Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; may Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
(Psalm 143:10)

The Lord says: *"listen, so that you may live."* (Isaiah 55:3)

**IF YOU HAVE
THAT'S FALLING**



**YOU'LL HAVE
THAT'S**

Adrian Roy