

August 21, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Mark 6:34 *When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So He began teaching them many things. (NIV)*

Do you believe God can do all things? Is there anything too difficult for Him? Sometimes we think about the great and mighty things that God has done. He is the God of creation. He was in the middle of nothing and took that nothing and created everything. He loved us so much that He sent Jesus into this world to die for the sins of all people. We serve a God Who specializes in the spectacular, Who majors in the miraculous and Who operates in omnipotence. But this very same God takes the time to invest His love and His Spirit into every single person who will come to Him. On this particular day, He and His disciples were returning from the other side of the sea where He had taken them to get some rest. As they arrived, they found a crowd so large that it was overwhelming to the disciples. Five thousand men and the women and children were probably around 15 to 20 thousand people. That's about as many as Madison Square Garden would hold. The disciples didn't know what to do about this huge gathering. It was late in the day and there were no places close for them to find something to eat. So, they asked Jesus to send them away. Isn't this much like us? Instead of meeting the needs, we push them away. But listen to how Jesus responds to them in v. 37 ***"You give them something to eat." They said to Him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"*** (NIV) The disciples searched and found five loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus then told them to instruct everyone to sit down in groups of hundreds and fifties. And the God of all the universe took these simple provisions and provided enough food for everyone so that they were all full and then the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers (enough for a basket per disciple). This is such an important lesson for us. He met their physical and immediate needs so that He could reach them in their deepest need, their souls. He looks beyond our faults and sees our needs. He always has and He always will!

Dear LORD, You are amazing and great. You rule over all things. You created all things. You will continue to reign over all. You do this because You care. Thank You for meeting our needs beyond anything we could think or even imagine! In Jesus Name, Amen