

Next Steps:

Spend some time comparing this miracle commonly known as “The Feeding of the Five Thousand” in the different accounts given in Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:32-44, Luke 9:10-17 and John 6:1-13. What are the details of the story that are similar?

What are the details that are different? Why do you think the different authors gave more emphasis to these details?

Why did Jesus decide to go to a “solitary place?” What are the benefits of “getting away” from your normal routine? What will you do to build consistent times in your life for “recharging your batteries?”

How did Jesus feel and what did Jesus do when he saw the large crowd? Sometimes our great plans are disrupted by great needs. Are you willing to commit to meeting the real needs of people, no matter the circumstances?

A young boy willingly gave his food to Jesus. It wasn’t a lot, but it was all he had. How does his example apply to your own experience? What can God do with what we have to offer?

Why did Jesus have the disciples distribute the food to the people? Why did Jesus have them gather up the leftovers?

What are some specific ways you can partner with Jesus to help meet the real needs of real people? What will your service do for your walk with God?

Next Week: We will see another amazing miracle as we take a look at Matthew 14:22-36 (also recorded in Mark 6:45-56 & John 6:16-24). What does this miracle teach you about Jesus?