

AHOLE IN THE AGOSPEL?

BACKGROUND

- *Miracle recorded in all 4 gospels (Matt 14:13-21, Mark 6:32-44, Luke 9:10-17)
- *John the Baptist (Jesus Cousin) is beheaded by Herod because of Lust
- *Jesus trying to get away from the crowds

FEEDING 5000+

- *Work is never done—had compassion on them, taught about the Kingdom of God and healed the sick
- *Some walked 12+ miles
- *Notice the question Jesus asked (v. 5) and the answer He was given. He wasn't asking for why not's but how to's.

"God never asks us to give what we do not have . . . But he cannot use what we will not give." Richard Stearns World

- *They had the money (see Mark 6:37) to buy food but didn't see that as an option. Easier to say that we are not set up for that and send them away. Nothing has changed.
- *Why are specifically told how many baskets were left over? Is the number 12 significant?
- *God doesn't waste our gifts!
- *If no one had came forward with the bread & fish would the miracle have taken place?

John 6:1-13 (NIV)

⁽¹⁾ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ⁽²⁾ and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. ⁽³⁾ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁽⁴⁾ The Jewish Passover Feast was near. ⁽⁵⁾ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁽⁶⁾ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. ⁽⁷⁾ Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" ⁽⁸⁾ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁽⁹⁾ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" ⁽¹⁰⁾ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. ⁽¹¹⁾ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. ⁽¹²⁾ When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ⁽¹³⁾ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

**UNDERWHELMING
RESOURCES in the
face of
OVERWHELMING
CHALLENGES**