

Jesus Feeds a Large Hungry Crowd

John 6: 1-15

Ps Too Teh Hsin

In **John 6:1-15**, Jesus shows Godly compassion by feeding a hungry crowd. Do we have a deep hunger in our soul that is not satisfied by this world? Despite trying many things to satisfy this hunger, we are often left unsatisfied. How can we find true satisfaction?

3 Ingredients for True Satisfaction:

1. Faith:

Multitudes of people were following Jesus as they saw the special signs He performed on the sick. Their collective need for food grew as time went by. The time was near Passover and the crowd was getting ready to remember how God set them free from Egypt and provided for them with manna from heaven to sustain in the wilderness. The same God was now present with them on the mountain side.

John 6:5-6 *Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?". He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.*

Philip expressed his concern (v7), fearing that even 200 denarii worth of bread would not be sufficient for all. He quickly assessed the problem's size and ability to solve it. Similarly, we often look at our problems and find our resources grossly insufficient. The more we stare at the problem, the bigger it gets.

Look to Jesus. He is the One who can meet all our needs. Trusting Him begins with a leap of faith, and this

faith must be accompanied by obedience

2. Obedience:

The boy was aware 5 loaves and 2 fish were just a drop in a bucket, yet he offered all he had to Jesus anyway. The same applies to what we have to offer to God. Though small, we will be amazed at how He multiplies it. The most unlikely ways can be the exact ways of God!

The words of Jesus *"Have the people sit down"* (v10) appear to be a logistical instruction with little wisdom – but is a test of obedience for the disciples and the crowd. It is also a test for us. Will we obey the word of God simply because God says so?

This is an interesting qualifier for who received the food - *"those who were seated"*. After Jesus prayed (v6), the barley loaves and fish were distributed and they were all filled to the brim. When we obey, we will be satisfied with God's goodness (*Jeremiah 31:14*).

3. Believe:

There were 12 baskets of leftover fragments after thousands were fed. The abundant blessing of God is not to be wasted. Let us share the leftovers of God's blessings to bless others. We can do this because Jesus did not give us the leftover but all of Himself.

John 6:35 *Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall*

not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." There is no doubt that this miracle is a sign that points to the ultimate bread from heaven, who sacrifices His life "*for the sake of the world*". Jesus is the bread. We come to feed on the bread because we believe it will give us strength. Faith brings us to Jesus. Obedience opens our mouths to eat. Believing allows us to digest, so God's word runs in our veins.

Do we want something that truly satisfies our soul? We need to come to Jesus. Our lack of satisfaction in this world points to another world. Let us feed on Jesus, let His word run through our veins, let Him nourish our body and soul and let His word rewire our taste buds for the things of God.

The Son of God became bread that is broken for us. He feeds the body and souls of everyone who would call on His name. Jesus is the bread who died so we may have a truly satisfying life now and through eternity.