

*22 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." 23 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. 24 "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. - Mark 14:22-24 NIV*

*The feeding of the 5000 is also a glimpse of the future. What are the parallels between Jesus feeding the crowd and the last supper?*

Jesus' example of the new kind of revolution was shown to us on the cross. It was to bless, rather than conquer, to give rather than take, and to forgive rather than take vengeance. And He still calls His disciples to follow His example in this new kind of revolution.

### **WRAP-UP**

During Jesus' time on earth, the Jewish people lived under Roman oppression and longed for a political savior to deliver them. Many hoped Jesus would lead a revolution against Rome, but He came to usher in a different kind of kingdom—the Kingdom of God. When the crowds followed Him, seeking a new king, Jesus saw their deeper hunger and responded with love, teaching them as a shepherd would care for lost sheep. But Jesus didn't act alone—He intentionally involved His disciples in this new kind of revolution. Though they initially saw their resources as inadequate, Jesus invited them to step out in faith and participate in meeting the needs of the people. He modeled compassion, then empowered them to act, showing them that leadership in His kingdom meant serving others and relying on God's provision. Through moments like the feeding of the 5,000, the disciples learned that even what little they had could be multiplied when surrendered to Jesus. He was preparing them—and us—to carry forward His mission by blessing, giving, and forgiving in His name.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

*41 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 his disciples to distribute to the people... - Mark 6:41a NIV*

Challenge – Which of these do you feel you can take a further step in doing: blessing others through prayer or encouragement, giving of your time or resources to those in need, or setting aside disagreement or offense and forgiving someone?

## **A New Kind of Revolution** **Gospel of Mark Ch. 5 - Week 3**

### **INTRODUCTION**

During Jesus' life on earth the Jews were under Roman oppression. They knew a savior was coming according to their scriptures, and they were hoping Jesus would free them from Rome just as Moses freed the Hebrews from Pharaoh. So, when Jesus withdrew with His disciples to find a place of quiet and rest, the crowds eagerly ran to that place because they were looking for a revolution and a new King. But Jesus was bringing a new kind of revolution and ushering in a new kind of kingdom.

### **Ice Breaker**

Have you ever taken a bite of something thinking it was one thing only to find out it was something totally different? Like you thought that green stuff was avocado dip, but you discovered it was wasabi?

### **Key Passages**

*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. - Mark 6:34 NIV*

### **STUDY QUESTIONS**

#### **1.Looking for a King**

*33 But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 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. - Mark 6:33-34 NIV*

*15 Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.*

*- John 6:15 NIV*

After Jesus' disciples returned from a time of travel and ministry, they found Jesus surrounded by crowds of people. Together with Jesus they sought out a solitary place to get some rest. But the crowd had other plans.

*What does the Gospel of John reveal that the people had in mind for Jesus? But Jesus didn't see them as a potential army of revolutionaries. How did Jesus see these people? Can you think of contemporary examples of other groups who are searching for a new leader, like lost sheep?*

*36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place." - John 18:36 NIV*

Jesus' statement in John 18:36 gives an indication of what might have happened if Jesus had been seeking to overthrow Rome and ascend to the throne. But Jesus rebelled against the common models of his day on how to lead a revolution. It wasn't with weapons and hostility that the battle would be won.

## **2. Life Through Word and Deed**

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, has compassion on His people.

*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. 35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. 36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." - Mark 6:34-36 NIV*

*What kind of hunger were the disciples seeing in the crowd and what hunger was Jesus satisfying? The people were free to satisfy whichever need was greatest. What do we conclude about a hungry crowd who remained to hear Jesus teach?*

*37 But he answered, "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?" 38 "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five--and two fish." - Mark 6:37-38 NIV*

*Jesus was inviting His disciples to join Him in this new kind of revolution. What did they immediately discover about their own resources? How did they gauge the value of what they had to offer?*

Jesus was calling them to do a seemingly impossible task, and they were trying to do it with their own resources.

*19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:19 NIV*

*20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. - Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV*

*Paul knew the secret to doing the impossible. Where do the above passages say we will find the resources we need to respond to God's calling? What seemingly impossible task is before you, like reaching a lost loved one or raising your kids? Have you exhausted your resources in trying to meet the challenges? If Jesus asked you how many "loaves" you had, He might be encouraging you to see what God is offering you.*

## **3. Blessed and Broken**

*41 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 his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. 42 They all ate and were satisfied, 43 and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. - Mark 6:41-43 NIV*

Jesus' discipleship style was "learn by doing". He could have done this miracle without involving anyone else, but He first modeled and then He sent.

*The disciples had requested that Jesus send the people away so they could provide for themselves. But Jesus demonstrates that He can provide all that they need and more. What did He start with? Where did He look? What was His attitude? These are important steps for us to remember in responding to God's call.*