

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
Class #209 – Tuesday PM February 19, 2008

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Luke 9:10-11 When the apostles returned, they gave an account to Him of all that they had done.



Taking them with Him. . .

Mark 6:31 “Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while.”

. . . He withdrew by Himself to a city called Bethsaida.

¹¹ But the crowds were aware of this and followed Him; and welcoming them,

STOP - There are a few things that transpire *between* the Lord’s arrival in Bethsaida and welcoming the crowds.

John 6:1-7 After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias).

Fishing Boat – Sea of Galilee



²A large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs which He was performing on those who were sick.
³Then Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples.

- They are up on the mountain relaxing and discussing everything that went on during the missionary tour.
 - Lessons learned – what they did right. . . what they did wrong
 - Some private teaching was going on in a very relaxed format.

⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was near.

- During this time the Jews are starting to travel to Jerusalem; there is a lot of traffic on the roads.

⁵Therefore Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him, said to Philip . . .

Philip is the analytical thinker - the mathematician.

. . . “Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?”

This was a test of Philip’s faith!

⁶This He was saying to test him, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do.

- The Lord knows He is going to feed the people.
- The Lord knows that He is going to provide their material sustenance.
- The Lord is going to provide for their material sustenance and their spiritual sustenance as well.

Spiritual food comes from teaching the Word of God!

POD: As one orients his life around the teaching of God’s Word as the highest priority, God will provide, in grace, what the believer needs materially.

- Can famines occur in the place that God has led you? _____
- Did Abraham experience a famine in the land God had led him to? _____
- What are famines designed to do?
 - Famines are designed to test your _____.
 - When it’s over you can look back on how the Lord provided for you.
- **What was Philip’s test?**
 - Philip knew who Jesus was and what He is capable of!
 - Philip had to realize his inability to feed the multitude and turn in faith to the Lord to provide!

The Lord asks Phillip - “Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?”

- Philip looked at the thousands of people headed their way – he calculated what it would cost to feed them.

⁷ Philip answered Him, “Two hundred **denarii** worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a **little**.”

➤ **Denarii – δηνάριον – DENARION**

- In Latin - - *denarius* which equals 1 day’s wage.
- 200 denarii = 200 days’ wages

➤ **Little – Βραχὺς – BRACHUS – “A few bites”**

Six months’ wages is not enough to purchase sufficient food to feed them.

Philip’s response indicates that he failed the test!

His faith was in what they had in the treasury to meet the physical needs of the people vs. in the Lord’s ability to provide!

What is your faith resting in?

Luke 9:11-12 But the crowds were aware of this . . .

Aware that the Lord had withdrawn to the other side of the Sea of Galilee near Bethsaida.

. . . and followed Him; and welcoming them . . .

After the Lord welcomes the people He begins with the most important priority of providing spiritual food.

. . . He *began* speaking to them about the kingdom of God and curing those who had need of healing.

- As the Lord provided the spiritual sustenance, the disciples began to worry about physical sustenance.
- They heard the Lord ask Philip, “**Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?**”
- They took an account of the treasury and found there wasn’t enough and this lingered with them throughout the day.
- By the end of the day they came up with a solution to feeding the thousands who had organized their day around the Lord’s teaching.

¹² Now the day was ending, and the twelve came and said to Him, “Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and get something to eat; for here we are in a desolate place.”

How much glory would the disciples’ solution bring to the Lord? _____

The disciples’ solution does not require any faith nor does it allow the Lord to bless in grace.

Five fundamental facts about grace!

1. Grace is not withheld because of demerit.
2. Grace cannot be lessened because of demerit.
3. Grace cannot incur a debt.
4. Grace is not exercised in the just payment of a debt.
5. Grace is never the overpayment of a debt.

GRACE, By Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer

Here are the disciples offering their solution at the end of the day which excludes grace and faith.

“Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and get something to eat; for here we are in a desolate place.”

This would solve the immediate problem but this would not bring glory to the Lord.

Matthew 14:16 But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away; you give them *something* to eat!”

The Lord is trying to get the disciples to trust in Him to do what is impossible for them.

If they trust in Him He is going to provide food in grace to everyone who is there.

At this point they get smart with the Lord!

Mark 6:37-38 “Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them *something* to eat?”³⁸ And He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go look!”

- So they depart to find out what they actually have.
- As they are searching through the crowd, the Lord continues to teach and manifest His Messianic authority by healing the sick.

John 6:8-9 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him,⁹ “There is a **lad** here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?”

Matthew 14:18 “Bring them here to Me.”

- The Lord was asking them to place what they have at His disposal.
- What they have is not enough from their viewpoint because they are not operating on faith.

Was the lad who gave all he had operating on faith?

It was the faith of a little boy that was found pleasing in the Lord’s sight.

That little boy had organized his day around listening to the teaching of God’s Word in a face to face capacity.

Because he had organized his day around the teaching of the Word of God, opportunities to seize were present that would not otherwise be there.

- **Lad** – παιδάριον – PAIDARION –
- A young boy (11-12 years old)



- His parents weren't around because he had his own lunch.
- He is operating on positive signals.

Andrew says - ⁹ “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, **but what are these for so many people?**”

It's not going to do anything unless you make it available to Me so I can do something with it, but it must be given in grace with faith.

Matthew 14:18 “Bring them here to Me.”

- At that point the lad hands over his food to the disciples and the disciples bring it to the Lord.

Who gets the credit for this, the boy or the disciples? _____

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.