



Life of Christ Series
Being Satisfied with God
Mark 8:1-13

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Over 26 times throughout the book of Mark we see Jesus finds himself in teaching situations derived in conflict after conflict. While all 4 gospels record the feeding of the 5,000, only Matthew and Mark record the feeding of the 4,000. This was another large crowd gathering probably because of the widespread report of Jesus' healing of the deaf and mute man. Let us look at Jesus' heart by his response:

Mark 8:1-13

"In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, 2 "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. 3 And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away." 4 And his disciples answered him, "How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?" 5 And he asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." 6 And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. 7 And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. 8 And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 9 And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. 10 And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha. 11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." 13 And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side."

1. Jesus has COMPASSION for All PEOPLE. (v 2)

- Jesus had compassion for the SPIRITUAL condition of the 5,000 people.
- Jesus had compassion for the PHYSICAL condition of the 4,000 people.

2. For the Church to FLOURISH, we must first be NOURISHED. (v 4-10)

- May God REVEAL what we need to do first, instead of us EXPECTING God to bless our efforts WITHOUT Him.

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” **Matthew 5:6***

- Jesus supplies their STOMACH because their hearts were SATISFIED.
“When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, ²⁴ but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, ²⁵ but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket. ²⁶ And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple.”

Acts 9:23-25

3. Seeking more SIGNS from God reveals a DISSATISFACTION from Us. (v 11-13)

- The supreme SIGN verifying His CLAIM to be Son of God and Messiah was to be his RESURRECTION.

“But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Matthew 12:39-40

How do we know when God is speaking?

- 1) God speaks through SCRIPTURE.
- 2) God speaks through PRAYER.
- 3) God speaks through His PEOPLE.

This is a good measurement of our experiences when God does something in our life. God will not do anything new that he has not done already in the Bible. When He speaks and leads us, may we be satisfied with God in everything.