



Chapter 14:13-21

Matt. 14:13 When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities.

Matt. 14:14 And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.

Matt. 14:15 When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food."

Matt. 14:16 But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

Matt. 14:17 And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."

Matt. 14:18 He said, "Bring them here to Me."

Matt. 14:19 Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes.

Matt. 14:20 So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained.

Matt. 14:21 Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Observations & Discussion

1. Why do you think Jesus wanted to get away by Himself for a while? What is the life-lesson we can learn from Jesus' retreat into the wilderness?

2. Apparently the multitudes of people weren't concerned about Jesus' desire to have a little time to Himself! How would you have reacted if your time alone was interrupted by a bunch of people? What can we learn from the Lord's response to that rude interruption?

3. Why do you think Jesus told the disciples to do something that was impossible ("You give them something to eat" – vs. 16)? Has Jesus ever asked you to do something impossible? What was it and what was He teaching you?

4. Notice how Jesus fed the multitudes: obviously He did a miracle by multiplying the two fish and the five loaves of bread—why do you think He did that instead of just raining bread down from Heaven? What's the lesson for us?

5. Jesus had the disciples collect the leftovers: what did He want the disciples to learn from that experience?

6. What's the biggest step of faith that the Lord has asked to take in your life?