



Matthew 15:29-39

- Matt. 15:29 Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of Galilee, and went up on the mountain and sat down there.
- Matt. 15:30 Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them.
- Matt. 15:31 So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.
- Matt. 15:32 Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way."
- Matt. 15:33 Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?"
- Matt. 15:34 Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?"
And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish."
- Matt. 15:35 So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground.
- Matt. 15:36 And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude.
- Matt. 15:37 So they all ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the fragments that were left.
- Matt. 15:38 Now those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.
- Matt. 15:39 And He sent away the multitude, got into the boat, and came to the region of Magdala.

Observations & Discussion

1. This miracle is similar to the Feeding of the Five Thousand we studied in Matthew 14. List **the differences & similarities** you find between the two accounts.

2. Reading vs. 33 it sounds like the disciples didn't learn what Jesus intended for them to learn in the Feeding of the Five Thousand. Why do you think they were so **slow** to catch on?

3. **How about you?** Has the Lord had to teach you the same lesson on more than one occasion? Why were you so slow to learn the lesson and to deal with the issue the way that Jesus taught you to?

4. I'm going to suggest that it should have been obvious to the disciples that the multitude were hungry—after all they *did* notice the needs of the crowd in chapter 14!. So why do you think on this occasion they **didn't** bring the need to Jesus' attention?

5. Have you ever **ignored** an obvious need that God wanted you to respond to? What are some obvious needs in our young adult group that you could meet?

6. In vs. 32 we're told that Jesus had **compassion** on the multitude. What does the word compassion mean? How have you expressed compassion in the last month?