

Loaves and Fishes

MATTHEW 14 AND 15

How many Loaves and Fishes Miracles?

- Two instances in the bible
- First
 - "Feeding of the 5,000",
 - all four gospels
 - Matthew 14:13-21;
 - Mark 6:31-44;
 - Luke 9:12-17;
 - John 6:1-14

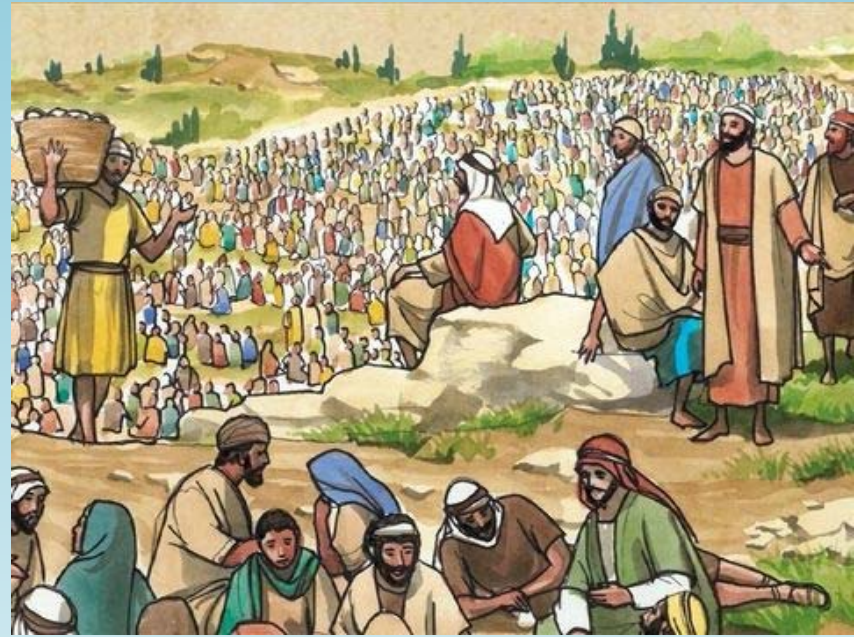


John 6 9-13

- **There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes:** but what are they among so many?
- 10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.
- 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and **when he had given thanks**, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.
- 12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.
- 13 **Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves**, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

How many Loaves and Fishes Miracles?

- Two instances in the bible
- Second
 - "Feeding of the 4,000",
 - with seven loaves of bread and fish
 - Matthew 15:32-39
 - Mark 8:1-9,
 - not by Luke or John.

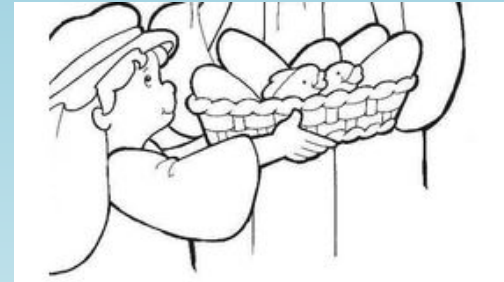


Mark 8: 2-9

- 2 I have **compassion** on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat:
- 4 And his disciples answered him, From whence can a man satisfy these men with bread here in the wilderness?
- 5 And he asked them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven.
- 6 And he commanded the people to sit down on the ground: and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and brake, and gave to his disciples to set before them; and they did set them before the people.
- 7 And they had a few small fishes: and **he blessed**, and commanded to set them also before them.
- 8 So they did eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets.
- 9 And they that had eaten were about four thousand: and he sent them away.

What would Jesus Do Lessons and Ponder points

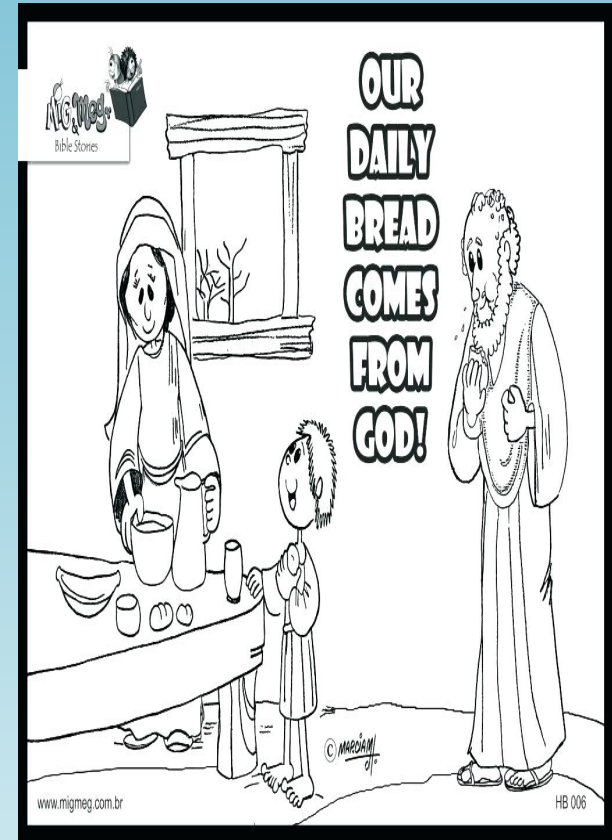
- Compassion
 - “2 I have compassion on the multitude”
- No discrimination fed all
- Gave thanks and blessed the food
 - “and when he had given thanks, he distributed
 - “Give us day by day our daily bread”
 - Provide spiritually for us
- Small boy gave gift of food
 - We bring our gifts or talents to Jesus and he can turn it into something big
 - What gifts do we have to serve Christ with
-



Other multiplications

Give to God first

- Faith and Obedience
- Elijah multiplied flour and oil
 - For the widow at Zarepath
 - 1 Kings 17:7-16
 - And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks and Elijah asked her to bring water and bread
 - 12 And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse:3
 - And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said **but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me**, and after make for thee and for thy son.
 - 14 For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.



Elisha 2 Kings 4

- Wife of a prophet
- And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.
- 3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.
- 4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

Faith & Obedience



Elisha 2 Kings 4

Faith & Obedience

- 42 And there came a man from Baalshalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, **twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof.** And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.
- 43 And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? **He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the Lord, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.**
- 44 So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the Lord.



Moses and the Manna

Exodus 16

Day of rest

Don't be Greedy



- 4 Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.
- 23 And he said unto them, This is that which the Lord hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the Lord: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.
- 26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.

Symbolism in five loaves

- Symbolic of Five books of Moses being multiplied
- Barley loaves
 - Barley was the First grain to be harvested and the feast of unleavened bread was celebrated here just before Passover
 - Leviticus 23 a sacrifice is given at this festival
 - He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted on your behalf; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it. 12 And you shall offer on that day, when you wave the sheaf, a male lamb of the first year, without blemish, as a burnt offering to the LORD.
- Bread gives life
 - Jesus word is the bread of life “Give us our Daily Bread”
- 12 Baskets
 - 12 tribes of Israel the lost remnant of Israel gathered up.
 - “Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves” John 6



Gifts

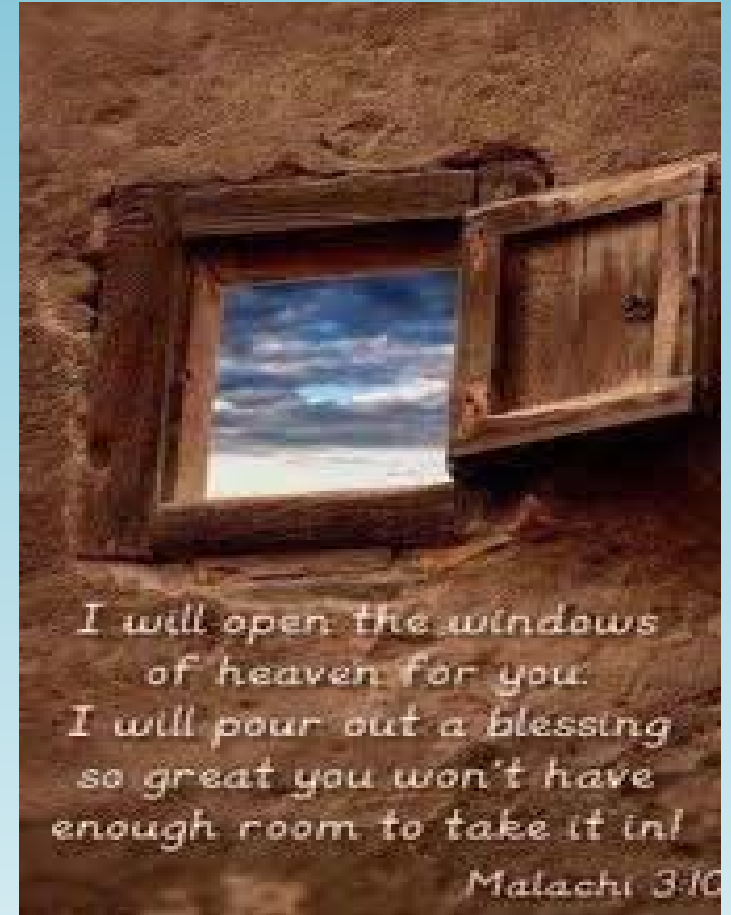
Use our gifts for the Lord



- Like the Small boy gave gift of food
- “There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes”
John 6
- We bring our gifts or talents to Jesus and he can turn it into something big
 - Mention of gifts in bible
 - Proverbs 3:9-10 – Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops. Then your barns will be filled to overflowing and your vats will brim over with new wine.
 - Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.
 - Deuteronomy 14:28 bring forth all the tithe of thine increase..... that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

God's blessing

- Malachi 3:10
- Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.
- Gen 12 To Abraham
- I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing



- keep my commandments, and live. Prov 4:4

