

(Topics, Lead-in, and Lead-in Devotional Reading below)

# Feeding the Five Thousand

Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:32-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14, 26-65

♩ = 69

Unison

D D  $\frac{D D^7}{F\# F\#}$  Am7 D  $\frac{D sus}{E}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G Em11 A sus  $\frac{D sus}{G}$

1. A hun - gry throng, a wil - der - ness, A deep and gnaw - ing need; A  
 2. This hun - gry world, this wil - der - ness, This deep and gnaw - ing need; A  
 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, we come to You, The lav - ish ban - quet spread, The

D  $\frac{D}{F\#}$   $\frac{D^7}{F\#}$  Am7 D  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Am7 D Bm A sus Am7

sin - gle lunch from one small boy, A crumb, a ti - ny seed; But  
 sin - gle Truth, a sim - ple faith Are such a ti - ny seed. But  
 feast that sat - is - fies the soul, The true, e - ter - nal Bread. With

D G D Am7 D Em11 GM7 A<sup>7</sup> sus Am7

You, the Source of all, were there. As Host, You broke the bread; You  
 You, the Life of All, are here, Your - self, the Bro - ken Bread. You  
 o - ver - flow - ing joy we dine On life each mo - ment new, For

D G  $\frac{D}{A}$  Bm Gadd<sup>9</sup>  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G Am7 D

lift - ed thanks, the Fa - ther blessed, And all were rich - ly fed.  
 of - fer up Your life for all, And all are rich - ly fed.  
 all who trust will ful - ly share For - ev - er - more in You!

WORDS: Ken Bible  
MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

FEAST ON CHRIST  
C.M.D.

TOPICS: Communion; Eternal Life; Life of Christ; Living in Christ

LEAD-IN: *Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; the one who comes to Me will not be hungry, and the one who believes in Me will never be thirsty."*  
(John 6:35, NASB)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

## Feeding the Five Thousand

Apart from the resurrection of Christ,  
the only miracle reported in all four gospels is  
the feeding of the five thousand.

Clearly, to the gospel writers,  
it was uniquely important to  
understanding  
Jesus.

So we tend to read the account and ask ourselves:  
As servants of Christ,  
how we are to respond to needs when  
they overwhelm our meager resources?

But read further in John's account, in John 6:26-65, and  
you'll find Jesus telling the crowd that  
physical need is not the point of the event at all.

In fact, Jesus pointedly says that we cannot do what He did,  
because we cannot be who He is.

The feeding of the five thousand was a sign (v.26).

A "sign" is an event,  
especially a miracle,  
intended to verify the truth of a teaching.

Jesus intended the feeding of the five thousand to be a sign pointing to  
Himself as the Bread of Life,  
the unique satisfaction for all life's hungers.

The miracle was intended to shout,  
"Come to Me and satisfy your hunger forever!"

But the crowd didn't see the sign,  
only the free food.  
For people who worked hard for daily bread,  
free food was a powerful motivator.

But Jesus continued to press them to  
understand the real purpose of the sign:

*"Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you."* (John 6:27, NASB)

He urged them to look beyond physical bread,  
which satisfies

only our bodies, and  
only for a few hours.

As the True Bread,  
the Bread of Life,

Jesus provides  
complete life,  
complete provision for all we are,  
forever.

Eternal life is  
Jesus Christ, and  
He freely shares all He is with  
all who come to Him and  
trust Him (John 6:29, 35)

The feeding of the five thousand  
points backwards to manna in the wilderness,  
where God provided heavenly bread to  
those with no other source of food.

As then, Jesus was teaching them to  
look to God and  
depend on Him  
for needs that no one and nothing else can meet.

The feeding of the five thousand also  
points ahead to the last supper:  
“This is My body which is given for you” (Luke 22:19, NASB).

His own body is the  
bread broken,  
blessed by the Father,  
to feed the human race  
when nothing else can.

Feast yourself on Jesus Christ.  
Trust Him.  
Receive Him.  
Take Him in, and  
you will become one with Him,  
sharing in His magnificent life  
forever (John 6:56).