

Last week we looked at Jesus as *Lord of Health* in the healing of the paralyzed man by the pool in Jerusalem. This week we look at John 6:1-14 and Jesus as *Lord of Provision*.

1. **Read John 6:1-4.** John notes that a large crowd now follows Jesus.

- Why would they follow Him in large numbers? Who would our culture and time follow like that?
- Who would you follow all over the country as this crowd did?

2. **Read John 6:5-9.**

- We learn that Jesus asks Phillip for help feeding the crowd. Phillip was evidently from this region, so why would Jesus ask him for an idea?
- Why would Jesus ask this question when He already knew what He was going to do (verse 6)?

3. Andrew offers the few resources he's found – bread and fish from a boy in the crowd. But then he dismissed the notion that so little could do so much.

- Do you think Jesus does the same with us?
- Are we called to consider the enormity of what He asks, and the scarcity of what we can offer?
- How do we, or should we, respond?

4. **Read verses 10-11.** Jesus takes the boy's 5 loaves and 2 fish – what they already had – and the entire crowd gets as much as they wanted. What do you already have that God wants to multiply to show His miraculous provision for our needs?

5. All four gospels report this sign. Compare each account. What common details are included in each?

Matthew 14:13-21

Mark 6:30-44

Luke 9:10-17

John 6:1-14

- What does John include that the others don't?
- As we study the signs in John's gospel, and how these point us toward belief in who Jesus is (John 20:30-31), why are these details significant?

6. In **verse 12**, we learn that the crowd was "*satisfied*." What does it mean to be satisfied with what Jesus provides for us?

7. In **verse 13**, John tells us about the *leftovers*. What does that tell us about how God provides? What's the significance of the numbers of baskets left over?

8. John notes in **verse 14** that the crowd now identifies Jesus as "*the prophet*." Using your Bible's cross-references, check some of the passages and think about who this prophet is and why the crowd would be so excited about that.

9. Simple Questions:

- What might we learn about human nature from this *sign*?
- What might this *sign* tell us about our common needs?
- What is this sign telling us about Jesus?

Pray That God would allow you to recognize Him as the Lord of Provision in your life this week.