

Jesus Takes a Break

1. What would be some good reasons for Jesus to “get away” from the multitude? How does such time away benefit us as individuals? What do you think the ultimate purpose of “getting away” might be?
2. What would it be like to serve as host to over 5,000 people? What would you be tempted to do? Why do you suppose Jesus pretended not to have a plan?
3. Why would Andrew even discuss the small child’s lunch? Do you think he was surprised when Jesus chose to use his findings? What does this tell you about God’s decision to use the unlikely?
4. Why do you thank Jesus gave thanks for the food? What pattern does this set for His followers? Compare to I Timothy 4:4.
5. What amount of food was leftover? Why did Jesus provide so much extra? Share testimonies of Jesus’ abundant work in your life.
6. The people’s response led to Jesus’ retreat. Why do you suppose He retreated? How is this different from the retreat noted earlier (*see #1*)?
7. What was the impact of Jesus walking on water?

¹After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ²Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. ³And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

⁴Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. ⁵Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” ⁶But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

⁷Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.” ⁸One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, ⁹“There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”

¹⁰Then Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. ¹¹And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, “Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost.”

¹³Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

¹⁵Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone. ¹⁶Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. ¹⁸Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. ¹⁹So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. ²⁰But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” ²¹Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

Read: John 6:22-40

Monday

22-24 — What do you think the people thought when Jesus did not go with His disciples? Why do you suppose they were seeking Jesus? What do you do when you desire to be with Jesus?

Tuesday

25-27 — What did Jesus say was their reason for seeking Him? Do you ever do the same thing? How can you better “labor for the food that endures”?

Wednesday

28-31 — What did the people want to do? What did they ask of Jesus? Do you really think they needed another sign? Do you know of individuals who are having problems accepting Jesus?

Thursday

32-34 — Where did people think the manna came from? Why did they not understand about the manna? (Jesus tried to teach them in verse 33.) What does verse 34 tell us about the people?

Friday

35-38 — In what way is Jesus considered the “bread”? What is the promise about those whom the Father gives to Him? Whose will was Jesus there to do? What areas of your life are you doing for your will rather than the Father's?

Saturday

39-40 — What is Jesus talking about in verse 39? What will it be like to finally be risen up with Jesus? How would you describe everlasting life? What do you suppose is one of the most important things to the Father?
