



Fresh Bread

John 6

¹ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" ⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. ¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

²² The next day — ³⁵ Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

1. A meandering multitude

▼ Note the seaside setting

^{6:1} Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias),

▼ Note the spirited spectators

^{6:2} and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick.

▼ Note the season and the sunset

^{6:3} Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

Matthew 14:15 As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late."

2. A mealtime Master

▼ Note the merciful concern of the Master

^{6:5} When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

▼ Note the mathematical calculations of the disciples

^{6:7} Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" ⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

3. A multiplication miracle

▼ Jesus managed the situation

^{6:10} Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them.

▼ Jesus multiplied the skimpy supply

¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. ¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

▲ See the small seed — five small barley loaves and two small fish

▲ See the supervising Son — Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks

▲ See the supernatural supply — and distributed to those who were seated

▲ See the sufficiency and satisfaction — as much as they wanted — they had all had enough to eat

▲ See the substantial surplus — they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over

4. A marveling multitude

▼ Note the conclusion of the crowd

^{6:14} After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

▼ Note the context of the comment

Deuteronomy 18:15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

5. A mouthwatering meal

▼ Hear the proclamation of Jesus

²² The next day — ³⁵ Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life."

▼ Note the promise of Jesus

³⁵ He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

Messages from the Miracle

1. Our Heavenly Father is the provider of everything we need — so trust him for your daily bread and everything else!
2. When we give our little to Jesus, he manages it and multiplies it and makes it meaningful — so give it all to him!
3. Jesus satisfies like no other bread — so come and feast upon his presence and his power to your heart's content!