

Small Group Discussion Guide

“Miracle Man” (pt. 5) – 6/15/2014

Scripture: John 6:1-15

Bottom Line: Jesus is God's provision for your life.

INTRODUCTION:

What is an example of you seeking the wrong solution for a problem in life? Maybe it was thinking that more money would fix your marriage, or perhaps more entertainment would ease the stress of life. In one way or another, we see that Jesus is the real solution to life's problems and that he stands ready to help us in our times of need.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read John 6:1-2

In verse 2, John says, “And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick.” Why did John use the word “sign” instead of saying that Jesus was healing the sick?

- Signs point to Jesus. John was reminding the reader that the point of the miracle is not the miracle. The point is that Jesus was sent from God to restore that which was broken by sin.

Read John 6:3-7

Verse 6 clearly says that Jesus tested Philip. What is the correct response to God when he tests us?

- Faith. Instead, we see that Philip (the realist) makes excuses instead of responding to Jesus in faith. It wasn't like Philip had not seen Jesus do miraculous things before this. He had, yet he refused to look at Jesus through the eyes of faith.
- God does not tempt people to do evil, but he does test us. The difference is that tempting someone has the intention of drawing them away from God whereas testing someone has the intent of drawing them closer to God by building faith.

Read John 6:8-15

If Jesus is a king, then why didn't he let the crowd crown him as king in this passage?

- Jesus is a king and he will rule over his people, but first he had to cleanse his people of their sins. The only way to do this was to die on the cross to satisfy God's just wrath. Israel recognized Jesus as The Prophet that Moses had predicted (Deut. 18) and so they wanted to make him king, raise an army and destroy their oppressors. This was not the deliverance that Jesus had in mind. He was more concerned with restoring broken people to a loving and holy God.

UNDERSTANDING HOW THE GOSPEL APPLIES TO MY LIFE:

How does Jesus feeding the multitude remind us of the Gospel?

- Read John 6:25-35
- Jesus is the bread of life. Whoever comes to him will be satisfied and never hunger though they may be in the wilderness of life. When Jesus did this sign, the conditions were similar to the Israelites wandering in the wilderness in Exodus 15. The people were in need and God gave them bread from heaven. The crowd that faced Jesus would have remembered that story. Jesus was telling them that he is God's provision.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

Consider the problems you are facing in life currently. Has it occurred to you that Jesus is God's provision to you for life's problems?

How can you make this truth more of a reality in your life?

- First, trust Jesus. This starts by constantly taking your worries to him in prayer.
- Second, constantly read his word so that you will have his perspective on life.
- Third, commit to his body, the church. There is great strength to be found by being around Spirit filled believers.