

(1) To what extent do you think that your happiness and sense of fulfillment in this life is wrapped up in your possessions or your position? Talk briefly about my own experience that I shared in the message and if it resonates with your own?

(2) What is your reaction when you read of this remarkable miracle? Do you respond with secret skepticism? Or do you marvel at the creative power of our Lord? Try to put yourself in the place of the disciples who were called on to distribute the food. What would have been your reaction?

(3) According to Mark 8:1-4, the disciples had evidently forgotten about the feeding of the 5,000 and were skeptical about what might be done for the 4,000. Have you ever experienced anything like this in your relationship with God? Describe an incident, assuming there was one, where you were the recipient of some glorious blessing from God in answer to your prayers and then later fell into doubt about his goodness and provision. What is it that causes us to react this way?

(4) What is your understanding of the meaning of the “leftovers”? What practical lessons are we to learn from this when it comes to God’s provision for our needs?

(5) Read John 6:51 where Jesus declares that the bread he gives is his body on the cross. How does this help us in our understanding of the purpose of the feeding of the 5,000?