...You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much... Matthew 25:21 (ESV)



### Mark 8:1-10 – Jesus Is Full Of Compassion

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#### Application

- 1. Jesus is full of compassion.
- 2. Jesus calls us to have compassion and give what little we have to meet the needs of others.
- 3. The compassion Jesus felt to provide food for hungry people was nothing compared to his compassion to supply salvation for sin-tormented people.

#### Life Group Questions

- 1. Read Mark 8:1-10 to familiarize yourself with the passage.
- 2. What are the similarities and differences between the feeding of the 5,000 and the feeding of the 4,000? See Mark 6:30-44, Mark 8:1-10.
- 3. What does this miracle teach us about the importance of meeting people's physical needs, not just their spiritual needs?
- 4. This miracle has a special focus on Jesus' compassion. Do you think there was any significance to the disciples giving Jesus their seven small pita-bread-size loaves of bread but ending up with seven laundry baskets full of extra bread and fish after the miracle? What do you think Jesus was trying to teach them?
- 5. How does the cross show us the full extent of Christ's compassion for us when we face the pain of sin, which is much greater than the pain of hunger?

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22–23 (NIV)

He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate. Psalm 111:4 (NIV)

### Jesus had compassion on the hungry crowd.

In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away." Mark 8:1–3 (ESV)

# Jesus used the apostle's <u>meager</u> resources to feed the crowd.

And his disciples answered him, "How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?" And he asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. Mark 8:4–7 (ESV)

## The apostles and the crowd were given <u>more</u> than enough.

And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha. Mark 8:8–10 (ESV)

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

Those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. Matthew 15:38 (ESV)