

# The Making of a Miracle!

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## Text:

Mark 6:34-44 (NIV) <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. <sup>35</sup> By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." <sup>37</sup> But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" <sup>38</sup> "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish." <sup>39</sup> Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. <sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, <sup>43</sup> and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. <sup>44</sup> The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

## 1. Realize THE NEEDS AROUND YOU.

Mark 6:34-37 (NIV) <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. <sup>35</sup> By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. <sup>36</sup> Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." <sup>37</sup> But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

### What we usually do:

- We determine what WE CAN'T DO.

"Send the people away!"

- We determine what GOD CAN'T DO THROUGH US.

"You give them something to eat."

## 2. Recognize WHAT I HAVE TO WORK WITH.

Mark 6:38 (NIV) <sup>38</sup> "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."

**Principle:** God always starts with what I have when He wants to do a miracle!

John 6:6 (NIV) "Jesus asked this only to test them, for he already had in mind what he was going to do."

## 3. Relinquish WHATEVER GOD ASKS FOR.

Mark 6:41 (NIV) <sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all.

2 Cor 8:5 (NIV) <sup>5</sup> And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

2 Cor 8:10-12 (NIV) <sup>10</sup> And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. <sup>11</sup> Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. <sup>12</sup> For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

## 4. Rejoice AND SEE WHAT GOD WILL DO.

Mark 6:42-43 (NIV) <sup>42</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, <sup>43</sup> and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish.

**Principle:** Whenever I give/obey, I am blessed!

Acts 20:35 (NIV) <sup>35</sup> In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

While we are waiting for God to do something FOR us, God is waiting to do something THROUGH us!

*Luke 12:34 (NIV) <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*