**Connect Group Questions**

Mark 8 – ‘How much bread do you have?’

1

The sermon initially focused upon the similarities and contrasts, between the feeding of the 4,000

& 5,000 multitude miracles, carried out by Jesus.

**Q** – Did anyone in the group realise that there were in fact two ‘feeding of the multitude’s’?

Do they think others may not appreciate this fact?

**Q** – How easy might it be for some people to get confused by the seeming ‘duplication’ of the

miracles?

**Q** – Was it right for Mark (and Matthew) to include both miracle occurrences in their gospels,

when so many other acts of Jesus were not recorded?

**Q** – Did people learn anything, concerning the two miracles, which may have changed their

view of Jesus, or his kingdom?

2

It was suggested that the key point, coming from the two different ‘feeding’ miracles, were the

number of baskets leftover, indicating an **inclusivity** in the kingdom of God, rather than an

**exclusivity**, i.e to both Jews and Gentiles.

**Q** – Do you agree with the significance presented in the sermon, concerning the number of

leftover baskets? If you disagree, what possible other conclusions may be possible?

**Q** – Do you think that Jesus’ words to his disciples, in Mk8:16-18 were overly harsh? How might the

disciples have felt at the time… how might you have felt?!

3

The latter part of the sermon focused upon Jesus being the ‘bread of life’. This was contrasted

with how the world can associate bread, with money & wealth.

**Q** – Do you agree with the comparisons made, between how the world might see bread

(associated with wealth, status & value) and how Christians are taught to see Jesus, as spiritual

bread?

**Q** – How are we called to engage with our friends, family & community concerning such a

possible contrast?

**Q** – What does Jesus want to say to us, through the inclusion of the feeding of the 4,000 in Mark’s

gospel i.e is it relevant to us and how should we act and apply it in our lives?

Reflection

*Jesus says, in John Ch6… ‘”I can guarantee this truth: Moses didn’t give you bread from heaven,*

*but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.’” (Jn 6:32). He continues… ‘I am the bread*

*of life. Whoever comes to Me will never become hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never*

*become thirsty.” (Jn 6:35)*

How may we come to Jesus to be ‘fed and watered’? Ask each person in the group to take

some time to reflect upon these words of Jesus. What might these words mean to them

personally; and practically, what can they do to enhance how they are fed by Jesus, through

his Holy Spirit.

Prayer

*Lord Jesus, Bread of heaven and our saviour. We recognise and confess we do not feed upon*

*you enough, instead often choosing to be fed from elsewhere. We invite your Holy Spirit to assess*

*and assist us, as we seek to subject ourselves to each other and to Jesus, partaking as we do in*

*the one bread.*

*Humbly we pray for your feeding, so that we may engage in being bread to those around us.*

*Give us a new experience of your love and a new revelation of your kingdom; and bring about*

*restoration - both within us and through us; so that we may become the bread you call us to be.*

*For the sake of ourselves; those you love; our community; and the Kingdom of God;*

*here on earth, as it is in heaven, continue to give us our daily bread, we pray.*

***AMEN***