



October 19, 2014

Part Three: Bread, Fish & Leftovers

Introduction

When you intentionally walk with Jesus through Scripture, you get a glimpse of what His life was about in relationship to others. We are challenged with His life. In 1 John 2:6 it says, “Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus.” It doesn’t say *TRY* to live, or think about living, but it says, **MUST** live as Jesus did.

Discussion Questions

1. The main principle is... “Make someone’s life better by helping.” In your observation of today’s culture, what conclusions have you come to? Are we making life better for one another or are we becoming more self- absorbed?
2. Jesus heard the news (Matthew 14:1-12) that John the Baptist was dead. Jesus experienced a great loss with the beheading of John the Baptist and knows about the loss others experienced as well. What lessons can we learn from Jesus’ response to this loss? Jesus took solitary time away to process loss. Why is it important to take solitary time away? Do you find it difficult to get away and be alone?
3. David Smith said we want to be free from losses and setbacks in our lives. How have you dealt with past losses in your life? Do you blame God for your loss? How does Jesus’ example help you?
4. Do you ever think that what you have in personal resources like, money, time, material goods, etc. (five loaves & two fish) is not enough to help others? Why? What keeps you from serving?
5. David encouraged us to experience God’s love in one of five ways: 1) Intentionally meditate on what God has done for you. 2) Focus on a promise God has made. 3) Pray that God would open your eyes to His love. 4) Push away attitudes and actions that contradict His love. 5) Let the Holy Spirit pour love into your hearts. What obstacles do we face in helping others? How can we become more aware and helpful to others when we are dealing with our own problems or pain?
6. There were 12 basketfuls of leftovers...one for each disciple to experience God’s overflowing! What are you doing with your leftovers? Who are you being called to have compassion on?

Conclusion

The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” – Jesus (Matthew 25:40)