

## What God Can Do

Mark 6: 30-44

5/23/04

### Intro

There are a number of events in Mark Chapter 6 that are very important for us to understand. They work together to form some important lessons God wants us to understand.

We begin by looking at a verse that leads us to the point that Jesus wanted them to gain insight particularly from the events we are studying today.

In Mark 6: 52, Mark writes that they had not gained any insight from the incident with the loaves, but their heart was hardened.

*I pray that we will gain insights from the incident of the loaves and be able to apply them to our lives right now.*

### **I. It's Not About Me**

#### A. It's not about what we can do

- He had just sent them out on their own in pairs.
- He sent them out with authority over the demons and with the power to heal sicknesses.
- He was teaching them an important lesson.

**Luke 22:35-36, And He said to them, "When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" They said, "No, nothing."**

- Another time he had sent out 70 disciples in pairs and they were amazed at their power...
- **"Even the demons are subject to us to your name..."**
- but He corrected them.

**Luke 10:20, "Do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."**

#### B. They could only see their lack

- When it came time to feed the 5,000, they suggested that Jesus send them away.
- But Jesus said to them, **"You give them something to eat."**
- All they saw was what they didn't have.
- "That would take 200 denarii!"
- Even what they said they 5 loaves and 2 fish they said, **"What is that amongst so many?"**

C. Their heart was hardened

- When they kept looking at what they did not have, and would not look to see that God can do wondrous things, they had hardened hearts.
- Hard hearts do not believe.

**Illus – When Jesus sent them out into the sea at night and they strained at the oars; and then Jesus came to them on the water, they were amazed and slow to believe.**

- Later, He confronts them again...

**Mark 8:14-21 – Do you not yet understand?**

**II. He Multiplies the Little**

- A. He delights in doing much with little
- We ourselves are an example.

**1 Corinthians 1:27-30, “God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God.”**

B. But don't just give a token

- The 5 loaves and 2 fish were all they had.
- Some people believe that if God can do much with little, then they will just give God a little of their hearts.

**Haggai 2:12-14 – they only gave God a token and wanted a great blessing.**

**Jeremiah 29:11-13, ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.’**

**III. It's Applied to Our Lives Today**

- A. Acknowledge the task exceeds our ability
- We too often look to ourselves for solutions and come up short.
  - Or we attempt only that which we think we can do.

B. Offer yourself for God to use

- God chooses to work through us
- He didn't need the 5 loaves and 2 fish.
- But He delights in accomplishing His will through us.
- Do we live independent from the Lord?

**Isaiah 29:15-16, Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from the LORD, and whose deeds are done in a dark place, and they say, "Who sees us?" or "Who knows us?" You turn things around! Shall the potter be considered as equal with the clay, that what is made would say to its maker, "He did not make me"; or what is formed say to him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?**

C. God can use even small faith

- Jesus said that faith even as a mustard seed can be multiplied by God.
- When the disciples could not release a boy from a demon they brought him to Jesus who then asked the father if he believed...

**Mark 9:23-24, Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."  
Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"**

Conclusion

**Even if you have a just a little faith, come to Jesus and he will multiply it and use your life for His glory.**