

# Sermon Discussion Questions



LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

## “THE GOOD SHEPHERD”

### Discuss

The story of the feeding of the 5000 is the one miracle (other than the resurrection of Jesus) that appears in all four gospels. Clearly, this was an event remembered and talked about during and after the years of Jesus’ ministry. Furthermore, since Mark was probably written in the mid-50s to mid-60s A. D., this story was first put into writing during the lifetime of at least some of those who had witnessed the multiplication of the loaves and the fish.

- 1) The disciples have returned from their missionary journeys only to be thrown into the crowds of people surrounding the Messiah. Jesus showed his loving care for his apostles by taking them away to a “desolate place,” since apparently they hadn’t even had a chance to grab a few bites of food. The crowds, however, won’t let Jesus and his disciples escape for a time of rest, and Jesus, we are told, “had compassion on them.” (v. 34a)
  - What need of the crowd did Jesus first meet? (v. 34b)
  - Look at Matthew 4:23-5:2. What did the crowds following Jesus often want from him, and what did he provide for them? Did he place a greater priority on meeting certain needs over other needs or was he equally concerned with all needs?
- 2) We know from other stories in Scripture that God had miraculously supplied food for his people on previous occasions (see for example, Exodus 16:4-5).
  - Why do you think Jesus first asked his disciples to give the people something to eat?
  - Why do you think he used the materials (bread and fish) available and his disciples’ help to provide the meal when he certainly had the power to produce food completely on his own?
  - What does this story teach us about our own resources and how we can use them in service to the Kingdom?
- 3) There is probably not a person on earth who has never uttered the words, “Let’s be realistic.” The disciples in this story were nothing if not realistic.
  - When looking at all the facts, what did the disciples fail to consider?
  - How can we learn to be realistic about Jesus and the way we are to live as his sheep? How should we as Christians, the sheep of our Good Shepherd, face the facts of whatever situations we are encountering?

DATE: February 11, 2018

SPEAKER: Jared/Brian

SERIES: Gospel of Mark

PASSAGE: Mark 6:30-44

### Pray

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of men, from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to thee again.

We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still; we drink of thee, the fountain head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

*from “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts,”  
Bernard of Clairvaux, ca. 1150*

Pray that you, “being rooted and established in love, may have the power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,” our tender and caring Shepherd. (Eph. 3:17-18)

#### PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

Covenant Seminary

#### PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Tim and Annette Gulick serving with One Challenge