

# Hunger Pains: Study Notes

## Sermon Notes

Passage: **Mark 6:30-43**

This is a moment in Jesus' life where, if we were to take a step back and try to decipher what was really important in Jesus' life, we should be drawn towards. If we were to do a compare/contrast study of the four accounts of Jesus' life (the gospels), this is one of the only moments that is recorded in all four!

Q: What was the common refrain you heard the most from your parent/significant other? Or, if you have children, what is it you most often repeat to them?

As we interact with this story, Pastor Phil suggested there were three things for us to pay attention to in order to understand the fullness of what's going on with this miraculous situation:

1. **The Significance of the miracle: Jesus proves that he can provide!**

Both on a practical (the multiplication of food) and theological (12 baskets leftover = all of mankind) level, Jesus points to himself as our ultimate provider!

2. **The Application of the miracle: God's plan was always people!**

Jesus said 'You feed them!' They brought what they had to Jesus, he blessed it, then returned it to his disciples for them to distribute to those in need. The miracle happened (and continues to happen) in the hands of Jesus' followers!

3. **The Implication of the miracle: The structure illustrates a life of purpose!**

The life of following Jesus is one of incredible purpose. There are times when we lean into God for provision and guidance, and then times where we are sent out on behalf of God for the benefit of others. It's a beautiful cycle that revolves our being around the person of Jesus.

Having gone over this moment in Jesus' life, Pastor Phil asks a question that brings this into our present day context: How good are we at identifying and satisfying the hunger we see in our cultural moment? Do we know what our community is hungry for?

Simply saying 'Jesus' isn't as effective as it once was — and it never really was — but Jesus understood this. This is why he satisfied a hunger the crowd had to create a connecting point to a deep truth about himself.

Our culture has a deep hunger for truth, purpose and relationship. To meet this hunger, it will require followers of Jesus to thoughtfully work out their faith and how it interacts with the world. That creates a better platform for belief, and equips us to

meaningfully connect people to Jesus. On this journey we will discover a few things to help us do this:

1. Being Present is more important than being Perfect
2. Being Real is more important than being Right
3. Being Consistent is more important than being Convincing

## Life Group Discussion

Read Together: [Mark 6:14-29](#)

1. When Jesus initially saw the crowd of people, what was his reaction? How should this inform how we are supposed to interact within our communities/spheres of influence?
2. Why do you think Jesus made it so the disciples fed the crowds, and not Jesus himself?
3. How does the implication that Jesus' desire to use the little that we have to meet the needs of the many make you feel? And how do you personally tend to value your own time/gifts/energy/etc. as resources for God to use?
4. What are some other lessons that you grabbed from this story/the message?

Prayer:

1. Pray for individual needs within the group
2. Take time to identify needs from outside the group, and pray into how you can begin to satisfy those needs and create connecting points to Jesus.