

Date: October 27, 2019
Sermon Series: Believe
Sermon Title:
Passage: John 6:1-15
By Pastor Eric Mann

John 6:1-15 (CSB)

¹ After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). ² A huge crowd was following him because they saw the signs that he was performing by healing the sick. ³ Jesus went up a mountain and sat down there with his disciples.

⁴ Now the Passover, a Jewish festival, was near. ⁵ So when Jesus looked up and noticed a huge crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, "Where will we buy bread so that these people can eat?" ⁶ He asked this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn't be enough for each of them to have a little."

⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ "There's a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish—but what are they for so many?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down."

There was plenty of grass in that place; so they sat down. The men numbered about five thousand. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks he distributed them to those who were seated—so also with the fish, as much as they wanted.

¹² When they were full, he told his disciples, "Collect the leftovers so that nothing is wasted." ¹³ So they collected them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves that were left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This truly is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ Therefore, when Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Matthew 14:12 (NIV)

¹² John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.

Mark 6:30-31(NIV)

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

Even when we follow God faithfully and completely, suffering is a part of our lives. It does not mean we are doing something wrong, or that God isn't doing His job.

Jesus provides everything we need when He gives us a task or assignment to do, even when it seems impossible.

"Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn't be enough for each of them to have a little."

However, when Jesus fed the five thousand, it says that

Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks he distributed them to those who were seated—so also with the fish, **as much as they wanted**.

Matthew 5:45b (CSB)

For [God] causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Jesus promises to provide everything we need to accomplish the tasks He gives us, even in miraculous ways. But He doesn't promise to give us everything we want to fulfill our own selfish desires.

When a Christian is following and obeying God, they already have faith in God. And yet, Jesus wants his or her faith in Him to grow even stronger. This is why He sometimes gives them a task that is impossible for them to accomplish alone with any human-level resources. He wants them to experience something that could only come when He provides in a miraculous way.

Obedience comes before revelation! So if you want to know Jesus more, then obey Him more.

Malachi 3:10 (CSB)

¹⁰Bring the full tenth into the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Test me in this way," says the Lord of Armies. "See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure."

Each one of us needs to go before God and ask Him the question, "How do you want me to obey you today?" Then spend some time seeking the answer.