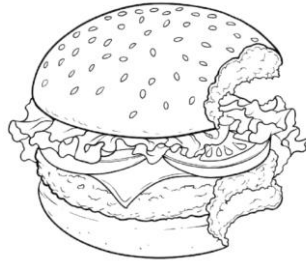


Can Jesus feed me?



So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognised them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. ‘This is a remote place,’ they said, ‘and it’s already very late. Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.’

But he answered, ‘You give them something to eat.’

They said to him, ‘That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?’

‘How many loaves do you have?’ he asked. ‘Go and see.’

When they found out, they said, ‘Five – and two fish.’

Then Jesus told them to make all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

~ Mark 6:32-43 ~

Have you stopped and thought about what Jesus actually did in this true story?

Jesus feed at least 5000 people with just five small loaves of bread and two fish, plus had 12 full baskets of leftovers afterwards! That really is insane!

But Jesus' miracle wasn't just about making sure the large crowd had enough food to eat, but Jesus was showing that he truly is God, the Good Shepherd that cares for his people.

We all know that we can't make something come from nothing, but God can do that. In fact, God created the whole universe out of nothing. And because Jesus is God, he could create more food when they only had a little bit.

Jesus was also showing that he provides all we need, just like as a good shepherd supply everything all that their sheep need. But it isn't just physical things like food that we need.

We all do need food and water and friends and family and safe place to rest, all of which God can provide for us, but we all also need to be forgiven for our sin, the times we think, speak and act against God and his way. By providing food for everyone, Jesus is showing he can also provide the forgiveness we all need as well.

Do you trust that Jesus can supply all you need, including forgiveness of sins?

Some questions to think about:

1. What was the problem that Jesus' disciples faced?
2. How did Jesus fix the problem?
3. How does that make you feel?
4. What does that tell us about Jesus?
5. Do you trust that Jesus can supply all you need, including forgiveness of sins?

Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you that Jesus is God. Thank you that Jesus supplies all that we need.
Thank that that means that Jesus even supplies forgiveness of sins. Please help me to trust that Jesus does supply all I need.

Amen.