

## JESUS OUR PROVIDER (Mark 6:30-44)

August 8, 2024

**TEXT—Mark 6:30-44**

**MAIN IDEA**—Only the Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Provider, can meet our every need, including our greatest need (salvation).

**MEMORY VERSE—Jn. 6:35**

**JESUS PROVIDES REST (Mark 6:30-32)**—Following a busyness of the Apostle's first missionary assignment, they returned to give the LORD a ministry update. After they had reported the great things accomplished through them in Jesus' name, the LORD wisely cared for them by instructing them to come with Him for a brief time of rest and recovery.

**Mk.1:34-35; Matt. 11:28-30**

\*We can find daily strength by coming to Jesus in prayer (**Phil. 4:6-7**).  
\*We can find weekly strength by taking a day to weekly observe the Sabbath principle (**Ex. 20:11**).  
\*We can be strengthened by quietly observing God's creation (**Ps. 8:3-4**).  
\*We can find strength by fellowshiping with godly people who encourage our souls (**Heb. 10:24-25**).  
\***Ps. 46** reminds us to seek the LORD through prayer and silent trust (**Ps. 46:10-11**).

**JESUS PROVIDES TRUTH (Mark 6:33-35)**—Though their rest was very brief, once the LORD and His disciples arrived at their next destination, they were met by massive crowds of curious and needy people. Rather than being bothered by the large Jesus saw their true need for Him and compassionately began to minister to these hurting people.

\*Israel in the OT was pictured as a flock with no shepherd, spiritually vulnerable to enemies, weak, bound by sin, and lacking faithful leaders who would provide protection from error (**Ezekiel. 34:1-5**). Here they were no different and Jesus *'the Good Shepherd (Jn. 10:11)'* saw their true spiritual condition (i.e. *sheep without a shepherd*). He felt compassion for them.

**Lk. 9:11**

**Jn. 10:11-16; Jn.10:27-30**

**JESUS PROVIDES FOOD (MARK 6:35-44)**—The day was long and fruitful. Thousands of people were healed and taught by the LORD Jesus Christ. Having ministered to them naturally and spiritually needs through healing and teaching, the LORD wanted to reveal Himself once again to the disciples and the crowd by meeting their need for food. His ability to provide this food, even in the wilderness, revealed His power to miraculously provide for every need of man.

**Col. 1:16**

\*The LORD miraculously provided manna in the wilderness for the entire nation of Israel for 40 years after the Exodus to prove He was their God (**Ex. 16:13-15; Duet.29:5-6). Jn. 20:31**

**V35-36** tell us that it was late in the day and the disciples were concerned for the crowd, so they encouraged Jesus to send them away to get food. Yet Jesus tested them by saying to them, *'You give them something to eat (V37)!'*

**V39-40**-Jesus commands the massive crowd to sit on the grass in groups of 100's and 50's. The LORD was organizing the people to receive the food the disciples would distribute.

**\*\*V41**-Jesus continuously broke the loaves, divided the fish and kept giving them to the disciples again and again until the whole crowd was fed.

**V42-43**-Not only were all the people fed and their hunger satisfied (**V42**), but there was more left over at the end than there had been at the beginning—twelve basketfuls (**V43**). There were small wicker baskets every Jewish person took while away from home. In it he carried his lunch and some needed essentials so that he would not have to eat defiling Genile food (Expositor's Bible Commentary, Mark, pg. 674).

**Jn. 6:26-40**