

JESUS IS PROVIDER

Discussion Questions for Junior High and High School Students

Question #1:

Read all of Matthew 14, what happens right before the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand? What does the context of the story reveal about Jesus' character?

Question #2:

Describe the differences between how the disciples perceived the situation and how Jesus perceived the situation? How does Jesus' response to the problem differ from the disciples?

Question #3:

What does this passage of Scripture reveal about Jesus?

Question #4:

What does this passage of Scripture reveal about humanity?

Question #5:

How does this passage of Scripture inform the way we live?

Worship Response:

The disciples saw scarcity. The followers of Jesus who had seen Jesus teach, heal, and do the miraculous found themselves asking Jesus to send people away due to their perceived lack of resources. They had taken their eyes off of Jesus and his faithfulness in their past. Oftentimes, we find ourselves making the same mistake. We have the tendency to fix our eyes on what is lacking instead of the one who lacks nothing.

One of the primary ways the people of God remain confident in the provision of Jesus is to cultivate a heart of thankfulness. Today's worship response activity will be writing down ten things you are thankful for every day this week. Just as Jesus took five loaves and two fish and gave thanks, we also can assess what we have and give thanks.

Further Reading (Optional)

Take a few days and slowly read through Philippians 4:4-13. Paul describes the value of thankfulness and contentment while he is in a Roman prison, hours before giving up his life for the Gospel. Let Paul's words inspire you and lead you into a continual heart of thankfulness in difficult circumstances.