



Mike Mzingo—Lead Pastor

March 19, 2023

Week 3

### Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

<sup>30</sup> The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said, “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.” He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat.

<sup>32</sup> So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. <sup>33</sup> But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

<sup>35</sup> Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. <sup>36</sup> Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat.” <sup>37</sup> But Jesus said, “You feed them.” “With what?” they asked. “We’d have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!” <sup>38</sup> “How much bread do you have?” he asked. “Go and find out.” They came back and reported, “We have five loaves of bread and two fish.” <sup>39</sup> Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred.

<sup>41</sup> Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. <sup>42</sup> They all ate as much as they wanted, <sup>43</sup> and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. <sup>44</sup> A total of 5,000 men and their families were fed. **Mark 6:30-44 NLT**

### MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS CAN BE TAXING.

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said, “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.” He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat. **Mark 6:31 NLT**

- Ministry is meeting the needs of others with love.
- Jesus modeled taking time to rest.
- Jesus cared about his disciples.

### JESUS IS BIGGER THAN ANY PROBLEM WE FACE.

<sup>35</sup> Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. <sup>36</sup> Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat.” <sup>37</sup> But Jesus said, “You feed them.” “With what?” they asked. “We’d have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!” **Mark 6:35-37 NLT**

- How we respond to our challenges in life reveals the level of our faith in Jesus.
- With God all things are possible!
- What are you facing that seems insurmountable? \_\_\_\_\_

### JESUS ASKS US TO BRING WHAT WE HAVE.

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<sup>39</sup> Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred. <sup>41</sup> Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. **Mark 6:38b-41 NLT**

- What we give, Jesus can bless and multiply.
- God blesses us so we can bless others.
- We become a conduit of blessings.

### WE BECOME THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS.

<sup>41</sup> Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. <sup>42</sup> They all ate as much as they wanted, <sup>43</sup> and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. **Mark 6:41-43 NLT**

- What Jesus blesses us with can bless others.
- Skills, spiritual gifts, resources, and time.
- Are you using your blessings to bless others?

### Next steps for me today...

- To realize how blessed I am.
- To trust Jesus with what seems insurmountable.
- To choose to be a vessel God will use.