

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for September 25-26, 2004**

**"The Feeding of the 5,000"**

**John 6:1-9**

Our study of the feeding of the 5,000 begins with a description of the problem (John 6:1-9).

Though the events in John 6 took place "after" the events in John 5, they did not take place immediately after the events in John 5 (Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 6:1-6; 30-46).

The extensive ministry in the area of Galilee by Christ and His disciples between John 5 and 6 led them to seek rest "on the other side of the Sea of Galilee" (John 6:1; Mark 6:30-32).

Though Christ and the disciples wanted to rest, a great multitude of people followed them to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (John 6:2).

They followed Him because of the many miraculous healings that He had performed in their towns and villages (John 6:2).

Christ's response to seeing this great multitude of people was one of compassion and therefore, after arriving on the shore, He taught them late into the day according to Mark 6:34-35.

Jesus had felt compassion for the multitude and because He taught them late into the day, the multitude became hungry.

The disciples' solution to the hunger of the multitude, according to Mark 6:36, was to encourage Christ to send them into the surrounding cities to buy food.

When Jesus asked Philip "Where are we to buy bread?" He communicated to His disciples that He wanted to feed the multitude. He was expressing His will.

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Though the question that Jesus asked Philip was clearly designed to communicate that Jesus did not want to send the multitude away hungry, it was also designed to test Philip (John 6:6).

Jesus wanted to see if Philip and the other disciples could see how His expressed desire to feed the multitude could be accomplished, even in spite of their own personal deficiencies.

Two hundred denarii was enough money to supply a typical family food for approximately eight months.

Philip failed the test because his focus was on their insufficient amount of funds rather than on the fact that Christ's expressed will was that the multitude would be fed.

Andrew failed the test because his focus was on the insufficient amount of food rather than on the fact that Christ's expressed will was that the multitude would be fed.

David was not looking at what he lacked when he faced Goliath, but rather at what the Lord was prepared to supply as he did what he believed was God's will.

Are we prepared when the Lord discloses His will to us through His written Word to trust Him for His abundant supply.