

ONE GOD, TWO FISH, FIVE LOAVES, JESUS

Isaiah 55:1-5 | Matthew 14:13-21

What had happened

Jesus meets them with _____

Even when it seems _____ to do so

Meet the _____

We do not worship _____

Lean to _____

READ. REFLECT. RESPOND. REMEMBER.

One of my favorite themes of the Bible is abundance. I've talked about it before and I'll most definitely talk about it again. In Exodus, as God reveals who He is to Moses (Exodus 3), twice Yahweh will tell him about bringing these people out of their misery, their slavery at the hands of the Egyptians, into a *land flowing with milk and honey, a good and spacious land*. So many things can be said about this, but the heart of it is I will give you enough. There will be enough for you there. In the New Testament, the place of the land as the realm of God's blessing is replaced with the person of Jesus as the place of God's blessing. That in Jesus, there is enough - and not just a little bit to go around, but an *abundant* enough that is manifested through compassion. This is why attempts to limit the grace of God must be undertaken with extreme caution - Jesus is revealing his nature as the compassionate, abundant giver. Read Exodus 3.

Reflect:

When you consider the world in which you live in and the life that you have led, where are you guided to compassion and where do you want to withhold compassion?

When you consider your relationship with material things, which things when apparently scarce cause you to panic? What do you think you need to be whole?

Respond:

Jesus was moved in his inner being towards compassion. What tools keep your inner self "safe" from compassion? Hate? Apathy? Disgust?

Remember: "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost." Isaiah 55:1