



*Everything Jesus does has a spiritual purpose.

**Mark 8:1 During those days another large crowd gathered. Since they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 2 "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. 3 If I send them home hungry, they will collapse on the way, because some of them have come a long distance."*

4 His disciples answered, "But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?"

5 "How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked. "Seven," they replied.

6 He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. When he had taken the seven loaves and given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people, and they did so. 7 They had a few small fish as well; he gave thanks for them also and told the disciples to distribute them. 8 The people ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 9 About four thousand were present. After he had sent them away, 10 he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the region of Dalmanutha. (Decapolis)

*Same miracle different outcome.

1. **What's the same/difference in feeding the crowds miracles?**

- A. **There is a need**, in a remote place, limited resources and Jesus breaks the law of nature.
- B. **There were different amounts** of people, loaves, leftovers, and days they were together.
- C. ***The 5,000 were mainly Jews in Bethsaida** and the 4,000 were mainly Gentiles in the region of Decapolis.

2. **V:14 The disciples had forgotten to bring the bread**, except for one loaf. **Their minds are so fixed on this world they are not seeing the bigger picture.** Your mind may be is in the same place and it's not by chance you're watching this message today!

**Mark 8:11 The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven. 12 He sighed deeply and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it." 13 Then he left them, got back into the boat, and crossed to the other side. 14 The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf they had with them in the boat. 15 "Be careful," Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod."*

16 They discussed this with one another and said, "It is because we have no bread."

17 Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? 18 Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don't you remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up? "Twelve," they replied.

20 "And when I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?" They answered, "Seven."

21 He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"

*Why will this generation of Christ-followers ask for signs?

1. **V:11-16 Religious thinking asks**; "what can God do for me?"

2. **V:17-20 When our minds** are on earthly things we miss heavenly insights.

- A. ***12 hand-size baskets** after feeding the 5,000.

- B. *7 hamper size baskets after feeding the 4,000.
3. **V:21 What were they not understanding?** Their hearts were still hard. When God/Messiah Jesus is with you all needs are met. God so loves both Jews and Gentiles that he will always make available what the world needs spiritually.

**Mark 8:22 They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. 23 He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. When he had spit on the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?" 24 He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around."*

25 Once more Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26 Jesus sent him home, saying, "Don't even go into the village."

*A double touch to see clearly.

1. **V:22 Jesus miracles, healings, and parables** are lessons in spiritual realities.
2. **V:27-30 A double touch.**
 - A. ***A single touch** with spit brought sight to the man. It didn't bring the clarity that you want with good sight. Salvation brings spiritual sight but not always the clarity you need in spiritual realities.
 - B. ***The second touch.** The second touch brought the clarity the man needed. The infilling of the Holy Spirit brings the clarity we all need.
 - C. **We focus on the act** when we should see the outcome. When you focus on the act you get crazy religion. The Spitities, the Mudities, the Washities, and now the Touchities, but what do you do with Blind Bartimaeus? Jesus didn't touch him at all!!!

Mark 8:27-30 Summarized Who do the people say I am? *Because even his disciples weren't figuring out who Jesus was. But the first declaration comes here from Peter; "You are the Christ."*

**Mark 8:31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.*

33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? 37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 38 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

*A rebuke, potential gains, losses, and understanding the full Gospel.

1. **V:31-33 How life works!** Jesus knew for him to die was for the world to gain. A Christ-follower must get this insight? The best there is will never be in this world. It's always found in the Kingdom of God and Heaven. Some don't have the mind of God and can only give what humanity understands.
2. **V:34-38 Two different directions.** The non-followers always want what the world offers. True followers of Jesus want Him, His truth, and the life that this world knows nothing about.