

"Do You Understand?"

Mark 6:30-44; 8:1-21
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"You will hear of wars and rumors of wars...Nations will rise against nations...there will be famines and earthquakes in various places...And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:6-14)

A. "It's not like it used to be..."

1. Facing new global realities: Population, Church, and Mission.
2. Two billion people still waiting to hear the Good News of Jesus.

World Christian Database Research by
Dr. Todd Johnson and Dr. David Barrett

3. The need for new approaches to fulfill the Great Commission.

B. God's missionary heart is revealed most fully in Jesus.

1. The Bible is a missionary book.
2. Two familiar stories with a message we may have missed.
 - Mark 6:34 "*When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd...*" (led to the story of feeding 5000)

The Region:

The People:

The Numbers:

- Mark 8:2 *“I have compassion for these people, they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat...”* (led to the story of feeding 4000)

The Region:

The People:

The Numbers:

“If we had the compassion of Jesus, it would change our families, churches, and neighborhoods for the better. It would allow us to give to others what all of us want for ourselves.”

Dr. Vernon Grounds

C. Unpacking the Truth of God’s Word for our lives.

1. The life changing question: “What do you have...?”
(Mark 6:38, 8:5)

It doesn’t take much for Jesus to do amazing things through your life, just all that you have.

2. Why the numbers matter: “What have we been missing?”

We can become so focused on God meeting our needs that we miss how He wants to fulfill His mission through us.

3. The story behind the story: “Our God is a missionary God.”

God wants to open our eyes to see others as He sees them, to see the world as He sees it—and to respond like Jesus.

- How will your life and/or attitudes be different as a result of what God has spoken to you this morning?