

2nd August

**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

As you set out for your walk;

- Are you prepared for what you will encounter along the way?
- Do you have the right kind of weather gear? What if it rains? Or is hot?
- Do you have enough money in case you need to buy something?
- Have you got provisions for your walk?

Read Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Jesus was trying to have a bit of quiet time after hearing of the death of his cousin, John the Baptist. A crowd heard where he was headed and gathered to greet him on the shoreline. Jesus spent all day having compassion and curing the people who came. The disciples became worried that there wasn't enough food for everyone. However, Jesus knew that what was there more than enough food to go around.

- Have you ever had a similar experience-where you thought there wasn't enough for everyone?
- What does this story tell you about what God can do?

Experience can teach us how to look at situations and judge what might or might not happen. There are times when we get this right and times when we can be surprised. When we bring God into the mix, we should expect that unexpected, but also remember that God gives us more than we need.

Think about the unexpected things that you encountered on your walk today and ask God to help you be open to seeing them and being a sign of God's provision.

Activity

Try making some bread or something that you can then share with other people, showing that we can share God's love by offering what we have to others.