

# Q1: What was Jesus' agenda when He set out on this wilderness getaway?

### Luke 9:10 (CSB)

10 When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus all that they had done. He took them along and withdrew privately to a town called Bethsaida.

"Summoning the Twelve, he gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. Then he sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." (Luke 9:1-2; CSB)

## Q2: What was the apostles' relationship with the people in this crowd?

Q3: How does Jesus respond to this interruption and invasion of their privacy?

### Luke 9:11 (CSB)

11 When the crowds found out, they followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

"Hurry is the great enemy of the spiritual life. Why? Because hurry kills love. Hurry hides behind anger, agitation, and self-centeredness, blinding our eyes to the truth that we are God's beloved and she is sister, he brother." (Stanton)

### Luke 9:12 (CSB)

12 Late in the day, the Twelve approached and said to him, "Send the crowd away, so that they can go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find food and lodging, because we are in a deserted place here."

Q4: What is the apostles' heart toward the crowd in this moment?

### Luke 9:13-14 (CSB)

13 "You give them something to eat," he told them. "We have no more than five loaves and two fish," they said, "unless we go and buy food for all these people." 14 (For about five thousand men were there.)

### Q5: Why does Jesus involves His apprentices in this miracle?

"Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God." (1 Peter 4:9-10; CSB)

"If anyone has this world's goods and sees a fellow believer in need but withholds compassion from him—how does God's love reside in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth... We love because he first loved us." (1 John 3:17-18, 4:19; CSB)

"What is impossible with man is possible with God." (Luke 18:27; CSB)

"Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these... Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son." (John 14:12-13; CSB)

"All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore...
Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20; CSB)

Q6: Is it appropriate for Jesus to demand their last morsel? Is He asking too much of His followers?

"For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. It is not that there should be relief for others and hardship for you, but it is a question of equality." (2 Corinthians 8:12-13; CSB)

"At the present time your surplus is available for their need, so that their abundance may in turn meet your need, in order that there may be equality. As it is written: 'The person who had much did not have too much, and the person who had little did not have too little." (2 Corinthians 8:14-15; CSB)

"Looking at him, Jesus loved him and said to him, 'You lack one thing: Go, sell all you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' But he was dismayed by this demand, and he went away grieving, because he had many possessions." (Mark 10:21-22; CSB)

"Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. For they all gave out of their surplus, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had—all she had to live on." (Mark 12:43-44; CSB)

"But seek his kingdom and these things will be provided for you. Don't be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Make money-bags for yourselves that won't grow old, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:31-34; CSB)



"There is no blessing of the crowds without the breaking of our loaves." (Frow)

### Q7: When exactly did the miracle take place?

#### Luke 9:14-16 (CSB)

14 ... The told his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." 15 They did what he said, and had them all sit down. 16 Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he blessed and broke them. He kept giving them to the disciples to set before the crowd.

### Luke 9:17 (CSB)

17 Everyone ate and was filled. They picked up twelve baskets of leftover pieces.

Q8: What's meaning and message behind the twelve baskets of leftovers?

### Luke 9:17 (CSB)

17 Everyone ate and was filled. They picked up twelve baskets of leftover pieces.

"What sign, then, are you going to do so that we may see and believe you? ... Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, just as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat."" (John 6:30-31; CSB)

"The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world... I am the bread of life... No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again." (John 6:33, 35; CSB)

"Truly I tell you... there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, who will not receive a hundred times more, now at this time—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and eternal life in the age to come. But many who are first will be last, and the last first." (Mark 10:29-31; CSB)

"When we surrender our resources to Jesus to be broken and multiplied we can be sure He will restore them abundantly, but we are also surrendering the form in which they are restored to us. He restores fragments. Multiplication brings with it a new normal. Our lives will never be the same." (Frow)

Q9: Did Jesus really need all five of our loaves and our two fish for His multiplication miracle?

"If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will save it. For what does it benefit someone if he gains the whole world, and yet loses or forfeits himself?" (Luke 9:23-25; CSB)

### Q10: How are we to respond to this scene?

"Come, sinners, to the gospel feast; let every soul be Jesus' guest. Ye need not one be left behind, for God hath bid all humankind." (Charles Wesley)

When Jesus asks for your lunch, give it to Him—every loaf and fish. Let Him invade your margins and trust Him to do the miraculous.