



THE SIGN OF HIS PROVISION

BIG IDEA: Jesus meets the needs in our lives.

DATE: Sunday, February 1 and Wednesday, February 4, 2026

SCRIPTURE: John 6:1-15

OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever encountered a celebrity? Who was it and what was the circumstance? Did you leave them alone or did you approach them?

Jesus was becoming somewhat of a local celebrity after word had spread about the miracles He had performed. Huge crowds were following him, wanting to experience these signs or perhaps receive healing themselves. Instead of rebuffing the crowds, Jesus saw there were many tired and hungry people, so he sought to meet a need.

SETTING THE STAGE

In this lesson, we will see yet another miracle recorded in the gospel accounts. The significance of this miracle became a formative moment for those who followed Jesus, especially those closest to Him. It is a significant lesson for understanding how Jesus meets our needs. Let's sit down on the hillside with Jesus to see what we can learn.

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 6:1-15 (CSB)

After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). ² A huge crowd was following him because they saw the signs that he was performing by healing the sick. ³ Jesus went up a mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, a Jewish festival, was near. ⁵ So when Jesus looked up and noticed a huge crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, "Where will we buy bread so that these people can eat?"

⁶ He asked this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn't be enough for each of them to have a little."

⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹ "There's a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish—but what are they for so many?" ¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place; so they sat down. The men numbered about five thousand. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks he distributed them to those who were seated—so also with the fish, as much as they wanted.

¹² When they were full, he told his disciples, "Collect the leftovers so that nothing is wasted." ¹³ So they collected them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves that

were left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This truly is the Prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵ Therefore, when Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

DISCUSSION

JESUS SEES THE NEED

READ: John 6:1-5

Why is it significant that Jesus noticed and cared about the physical needs of the crowd?

When have you felt noticed by Jesus?

JESUS MEETS THE NEED

READ: John 6:6-11

How have you personally observed that "little is much when God is in it"?

What's our part and what's God's part in seeing our physical needs met?

What is the relationship between faith and God's provision?

EXPECTATIONS GROW

READ: John 6:12-15

What do you notice about this miracle in verse 12?

When has Jesus stepped in to meet your needs in a powerful way? Share with your group to encourage them!

What are some lessons we can learn from this fourth sign from Jesus?

RESPONSE

In what areas are you needing God's provision right now? Perhaps you have financial needs, physical problems, family issues, friendship struggles, emotional stress, or something else. Identify the "loaves and fishes" God has placed in your life that *seem* inadequate for the need. God sees us as we really are, and through each circumstance, He is working to meet our needs. We can trust His work, and we can trust Him. Thank Him for how He has met your needs in the past and trust Him to meet them in the future.

READING PLAN

WEEK 5: 2/1-Exodus 40; 2/2-Leviticus 9; 2/3-Leviticus 10; 2/4-Isaiah 56; 2/5-Hebrews 8; 2/6-Psalm 51; 2/7-Psalm 103