

# WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



Who Do You Say He Is?  
Mark 8:1–21

Mark 8:1-10

In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, **2** “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. **3** And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away.” **4** And his disciples answered him, “How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?” **5** And he asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.” **6** And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. **7** And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. **8** And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. **9** And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. **10** And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

## Same situation; same response

### • Situation

Narrative Element	Mark 6:31-45	Mark 8:1-10
Setting	"A quiet place" (v. 31); "a solitary place" (v. 32), translations of wilderness	"This remote place" (v. 4) ("wilderness")
People in need	Large crowd, "like sheep w/o a shepherd," in need of food (vv. 34-36)	Large crowd from far away in need of food (vv. 1-3)
Jesus' response	"Had compassion on them". (v. 34)	"I have compassion for them" (v. 2)
Jesus' intention	Jesus tells the disciples to feed the crowd when they raise the issue (vv. 35-37)	Jesus raises the issue (vv. 2-3)
Disciples' View	Request Jesus to send the crowd away (vv. 35-36)	No way to feed the crowd in the remote location (v. 4).
Meager Resources	5 loaves, 2 fish (vv. 38, 41)	7 loaves, a few small fish (vv. 5, 7)
Jesus provides	"Taking . . . , he gave thanks & broke;" gives to disciples to distribute (v. 41).	"When he had taken . . . and given thanks, he broke;" gives to disciples to distribute (v. 6)
Crowd's response	"All ate & were satisfied" (v. 42)	"The people ate & were satisfied" (v. 8)
Leftovers	12 baskets full (v. 43)	7 baskets full (v. 8)
Size of Crowd	5,000 (v. 44)	4,000 (v. 9)
Conclusion	Jesus sends away the crowd & orders his disciples into a boat (v. 45)	Jesus sends away the crowd & gets into the boat with his disciples (v. 10)

- The circumstances are *nearly* identical!
- With 2 exceptions!
  - The crowd was Gentiles
  - The crowd was smaller
- Response
  - Mark 6
    - Disciples' initial response: "Jesus, send the crowd away."
    - Jesus' response: "You feed them!"
    - Disciples' reply: "Serious?"
  - Mark 8
    - Jesus' initial response: "These people are hungry!"
    - Disciples' response: "Too many people and no bread in sight!"
    - Jesus' response: "How many loaves do you have?"
- The disciples' point: It's IMPOSSIBLE!

- Jesus' point:
  - "You saw me feed 5,000. Will you trust that I can feed 4,000?"
  - "Now it's your turn!"
  - "Have faith!"
- What similar situation is Jesus asking you to trust Him with again?

Mark 8:11-21

**11** The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. **12** And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation."

**13** And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

**14** Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. **15** And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." **16** And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. **17** And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? **18** Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? **19** When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." **20** "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." **21** And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

#### Same situation; different response

- Situation
  - This is the 3rd time the disciples have been in a boat on the Sea of Galilee.
    - "38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' 39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 He said to them, 'Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?'" (Mark 4:38-41).
    - "50 for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, 'Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.' 51 And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, 52 for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened" (Mark 6:50-52).
    - "17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, 'Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? 18 Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?' They said to him, 'Twelve.' 20 'And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces

did you take up?’ And they said to him, ‘Seven.’ 21 And he said to them, ‘Do you not yet understand?’” (Mark 8:17-21).

- Response
- “9 And he said, ‘He who has ears to hear, let him hear.’ 10 And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. 11 And he said to them, ‘To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, 12 so that ‘they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven’ (Mark 4:9–12).
- Will you trust Jesus to do again what He did before?

Break the cycle of doubt—don't double-fault your faith!

- What similar situation is Jesus asking you to trust Him with again?
- Will you trust Jesus to do again what He did before?