

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries

5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

The Book of John

Lesson 13 class of people

Return pages 6 & 7 only

Read John 6:1-13

In this chapter you have seven classes of people.

Verse 2 - The curious

Verse 14 - The admiring

Verse 41 - The murmurers

Verse 66 - The backsliders

Verse 36 - The skeptical

Verse 26 - The greedy

Verse 52 - The scoffers

Not a very good collection there, none of those, you will notice are believers. These are all people who walk up, take a look and seemingly make a wrong choice.

Verse 1-2: *After these things...* referring to chapter 5, that was His first real debate or argument with the religious leaders of Israel. *After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.* Now, if He is crossing that sea and that sea is a large body of water – they have to do it by boats. So here is this little fleet of ships crossing the water. Jesus and His disciples leading the way and all of these other little boats were following after. Notice according to verse 2, they are not following Him because they believe on Him; they are following Him because they saw His miracles. This is a matter of what we said of curiosity. They want to see who is this man. How does He operate? What gives Him His power? What is He going to say? What's He going to do next? Who is He going to heal? So away goes the crowd. (sound familiar?)

And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. Now the topography of this land over there is fascinating. You have this sea of Galilee; it is a very flat body of water and around it these mountains rise up several hundred feet, but they are very smooth and curved, if you were going to build an amphitheater, you would build it that way. Pastor James said when he was in Israel, he stood on one of these mountains and he could hear chickens chucking a mile away and when the rooster would crow, it sounded like it was standing right next to him. Jesus could stand out a little ways from the shore in a boat or at the base of the hill or top speaking in a normal voice and be easily heard by thousands of people. Just think, when God spoke the Earth into existence, He told the mountains how to be formed so that when He would arrive on that scene to talk to those thousands of people, He could do so, without even raising His voice.

And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. Look at Psalm 132:15 as a heading for this passage we are about to read. *I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.* That is God's promise to Israel. *I will satisfy her poor with bread.* Jesus is about to show Himself as the one as to whom the scripture was written.

Verse 4. *And the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him...* Matthew 14:14 and Mark 6:34 record this same event. In Matthew 14:14, the Bible says, *And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.* And what follows is the feeding of the five thousand. In Mark 6:34, the Bible says, *And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as*

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sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things. Here you do not read about that phrase that He had compassion. The reason for that again underscores the theme of the book of John. The word compassion means to come along side. You do not have the saying "*He was moved with compassion*" in John because it presents Jesus Christ as God. He is far above man. In John, He is not coming along side man. In John, He is not coming down to be like man. In John, He maintains His deity throughout the book. He does not come along side; He stands above.

...and he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Whenever God asks a question, He is not looking for an answer. He is not seeking information. He knows that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. Matthew 12:34; Luke 6:45 And when God asks a question, He is not wanting the answer to the question, He is wanting to evaluate the condition of the heart. "Cain, where is your brother?" Am I my brother's keeper? Genesis 4:9

What did Cain reveal in his answer? The condition of his heart. "Adam, where art thou?" "I heard your voice Lord and I knew I was naked and I hid myself..." The Lord knew where He was. Here in this passage, Jesus knew what He would do for this hungry multitude, but He is trying Philip's heart.

Verse 7 *Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.* Numbers 11 –Manna from Heaven and quail when they grew weary of the manna.

The Bible says in Numbers 11:18, *And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat.* Sometimes God gives you what you ask for, even though it is not what is best. "Well, I don't know why God didn't give me..." Well, maybe you should just say, "God thank you for not giving me what I asked for." *Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days; But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt? And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month. Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them? And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD's hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.* Here is the lesson in Numbers 11. If there is five thousand, or five million people in that wilderness. Jesus can feed them, if He is the Lord.

Now He is asking Philip, how are we going to feed these men. He is not asking out of despair, wonder or concern; He is asking, Philip, do you have any idea yet who I am? Philip's response is based on the same logic that everyone responds too...he looks at the circumstances, the multitudes his earthly resources and he draws the conclusion "all is insufficient"; from that, he responds *John 6:7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.* Lord, if we used everything we had, it would still not be enough.

Verse 8. *One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here,* just make a note in John, every time we see Andrew, he is bringing somebody to Jesus. Andrew is your great picture of a soul winner. In John 1:41-42, in John 6:8-9 and in John 12:22 – three times in John it mentions Andrew and all three times, he is bringing somebody to Jesus. Andrew says, *There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two*

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small fishes: but what are they (the loaves and the fish) *among so many?* Now again, look what is happening in John. ...*what are they...* What is Andrew as good as a disciple as he is, what is he looking at? Loaves and fish, not Jesus But here's what I wonder when I read that story.

Now think about it, if you are Andrew. You know five loaves and two small fish cannot feed these people. So what is he bringing this kid to Jesus for? Here I see God working in the life of somebody who really does not have this great faith, he really does not have a clue what is going on, who really does not see the whole big picture – all he knows is “Lord, I do not know how you are going to feed five thousand people, but I found one little boy here who is willing to help. At least Andrew is recruiting people that are willing to help. What are we doing? “The whole world is dying and going to hell, the nations is falling apart, there is corruption on every hand and God, What are you and I doing about it? Are you willing to help? Are you out there recruiting people that are willing to help? That is the picture here. I thank the Lord for Andrew's. Who may not have it all figured out, but at least he is not sitting around waiting for someone else to volunteer, at least he brought someone to Jesus.

Verse 10. *And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place.* Here is what is happening....– you have this big mob. What have they done? They have come across this water following Jesus looking to see, hear or experience something. There is a group of them over here standing around and a group over there standing around. They are scattered all over this hillside and Jesus tells His disciples to go out and have these people sit down. The Bible says, *Now there was much grass in the place;* which is interesting because the Bible says they were in a desert place, that does not mean a lack of plant life. A desert place means it is deserted. There is no one living there. Now think about something – in our minds, we picture the children of Israel coming out of Egypt and wandering for thirty-eight years in the wilderness. In all the pictures you have seen made it look like southern Nevada. Let me ask you something. How are you going to bake bread for a million and half people for forty years without firewood? There is nothing in the Bible that says oxen, cattle, sheep, asses and goats ate manna. That land that they passed through most likely became desolate as a result of one of two things. Either what the Israelites did out there for forty years chopping down every last bit of life or it is a result of God's curse upon the land when Israel forsook His law and abandoned His truth. But it did not start out that way. So in this wilderness, desert place and they are sitting down on this grassy hillside.

So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. In the same account of in Matthew 14, it says there were women and children, if there was five thousand men, there could have been easily fifteen thousand to twenty thousand people, all total. The average population of one of these villages in Jesus day would be about five to six hundred people. If you have a crowd of fifteen thousand people, you are talking about every living soul in a whole region that is following on foot to hear, see and be close to this man. It had to be just an unbelievable phenomenon. It's no wonder the scribes and the Pharisees were so concerned. This man has literally turned the entire nation around. They were following the entire country, following this Jesus.

The Bible says in verse 11. *And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks,* The Lord – every time you see the Lord feeding somebody He is first giving thanks. That is where we get the whole idea. There is not a verse in the Bible that says bow your head and give God thanks before you eat a meal; but the New Testament says nothing is to be

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refused if it be received with thanksgiving. 1 Timothy 4:4. Jesus gave thanks when He broke the bread here and did the same in the upper room.

Verse 11 continued: *he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.* Picture yourself as Bartholomew; you are one of the twelve disciples. Jesus is taking this boy's lunch, five loaves of bread and two fishes are watching as the Lord breaks five loaves and divides those five into twelve pieces and puts one piece in each of a basket. Then He takes these two little fish – and He divides them into six parts each and He puts some of that fish in each basket. And now Jesus says, “okay, fellows, go out there and feed them and tell them to take as much as they want. What are you thinking? Something's is going through your mind – this is not going to work. The first guy that reaches His hand into that basket is not going to get as much as he wants. And so he walks up and here is this family and they are hungry and he said, “Jesus said eat.” And six of them stick their hand down in the basket and pull out this big ole' fish sandwich. Now you what? That is not a miracle to those people that reached in the basket and get that food because all they know, Jesus had wagon loads of food sitting there. But those disciples knew there was nothing in there to start with and person after person after person after person keeps hauling out enough to eat and to spare.

What is the Old Testament case, where did this very same thing happen with regard to an endless supply of food? The widow's barrel – where the meal did not fail and the cruise of oil did not run out. No matter how much you took out of there, there is still more. More was never put in. But more kept coming out. And so the Bible says, *and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.*

Verse 12. *When they were filled,* Now who would that be? That would be the whole multitude. *When they were filled he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain...* Why is it, when people get something for free, many take more than they need. I have known people to eat themselves sick because, they are greedy. I wonder how many did not give back their excess?

The Bible says, *that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets...* How many disciples were there? Each one came back with a basket full *with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.* God fills each of us to the brim, nothing is ever lost when you belong to God, and there is never any lack. No one gets more than the other, and we all end up together with God.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Notes

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The Book of John

Lesson 13

Name _____

1. Why did the multitudes follow Jesus?
2. Why do you suppose He separated Himself in the fashion describes as in verse 3?
3. What connection, if any, do you see between the Passover in verse 4 and the miracle of this chapter?
4. What do verses 5 & 6 reveal about the Lord's working in our lives?
5. What does Philip's answer reveal about his faith and understanding?
6. What is the outstanding feature which unites the 3 mentions of Andrew in the book of John?
7. Describe how verse 11 presents a perfect picture of the work of the gospel today?
8. What important meal-time lesson is found in verse 11?
9. Compare Philip's statement verse 7, and Andrew's question verse 9 with the Lord's provision verse 11. What lesson are here for our encouragement?
10. What great lessons do you find in verse 12?
11. Do you see any significance in the number of baskets remaining?
12. What Old Testament prophet fed people in a miraculous fashion?
13. What other Old Testament event is brought to mind by this feeding and what truth does such a comparison reveal about Jesus?

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14. What did you learn from this lesson?



Scripture Memorization, write out these verses on the back of this sheet (must be in KJV) Romans 11:29; Matthew 12:34; Luke 6:45

true/false

- It is ok to sit around and never bring anyone to the Lord.
- When things are free, take more than you need.
- When you say something bad, it is part of you.
- God understands that once in a while we slip up and say bad things.