

# **What is Lent?**

- **Lent is a season of less in a culture of more**
  - **This Lenten season may we hear Jesus' call to explore (Acts 1:8) as a call to alignment before addition.**

# **The Unique Status of the Feeding of the 5,000**

- 1. Matthew 14:13-21**
- 2. Mark 6:31-44**
- 3. Luke 9:10-17**
- 4. John 6:1-14**

# **The Table Manners of Jesus—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Provision**

- **Jesus' table manner of provision moves us from desolation to satisfaction.**

**“The word ‘all’ is equally significant. Nowhere did Torah and oral tradition regulate Jewish life more prescriptively than at table. The effect of kosher was to ensure that proper foods, properly prepared, were properly eaten; unclean foods and unclean persons were necessarily excluded.**

**At the wilderness banquet the ritual of kosher is abandoned in favor of an open invitation and inclusion of all people. ‘They *all* ate and were satisfied.’ The meal provided by Jesus does not ‘tide the crowd over’ until something more substantial can be had.**

**The meal is so sufficient and satisfying that a basket of leftovers remains for each of the disciples.”**

**— *James Edwards***

**Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table  
Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #1: “Desolate Place”—v.12**

**<sup>2</sup>And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness,**

**<sup>3</sup>and the people of Israel said to them,  
"Would that we had died by the hand of  
the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat  
by the meat pots and ate bread to the full,  
for you have brought us out into this  
wilderness to kill this whole assembly  
with hunger."**

**<sup>4</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not.**

***Exodus 16:2-4***

# **Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #1: “Desolate Place”—v.12**
  - **Regular provision**

**“Consistency is the curriculum”**

# **Applying Jesus' Regular Provision around our Tables**

- **Give thanks**
- **Make consistency your curriculum**

# **Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #2: “Twelve Baskets”—v.17**

## **12 and Bread in the Bible**

- **Showbread or Bread of the Presence**
- **Exodus 25:23-30 and Leviticus 24:5-9**

# **Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #2: “Twelve Baskets”—v.17**
  - **Relational provision**

**When he went ashore he saw a great crowd,  
and he had compassion on them, because  
they were like sheep without a shepherd.  
And he began to teach them many things.**

***Mark 6:34***

**There is a beautiful expression in the Gospels that appears only twelve times and is used exclusively in reference to Jesus or the Father. That expression is “to be moved with compassion.” The Greek verb *splangchnizomai* reveals to us the deep and powerful meaning of this expression. The *splagchna* are the entrails of the body, or as we might say today, the guts.**

**They are the place where our most intimate and intense emotions are located...When the Gospels speak about Jesus' compassion as he being moved in the entrails, they are expressing something very deep and mysterious.**

**The compassion that Jesus felt was obviously quite different from superficial or passing feelings of sorrow or sympathy. Rather, it extended to the most vulnerable part of Jesus' being.”**

**— Henri Nouwen, Donald McNeil and  
Douglas Morrison**

***Compassion, A Reflection on the Christian Life***

# **Applying Jesus' Relational Provision around our Tables**

- **Sit face to face**
- **Sit shoulder to shoulder**

**<sup>17</sup>But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. <sup>18</sup>For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part,**

**<sup>19</sup>for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. <sup>20</sup>When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. <sup>21</sup>For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk.**

**<sup>22</sup>What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.**

***1 Corinthians 11:17-22***

# **Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #3: “Fifty Each”**

**1 Kings 18:13—Elijah feeds God's prophets  
by fifties**

**2 Kings 4:42-44—Elisha feeds 100 men with  
20 loaves**

# **Three Clues to the Meaning of Jesus' Table Manner of Provision—Luke 9:10-17**

- **Clue #3: “Fifty Each”**
  - **Restorative provision**