

A Study of Mark – Lesson 22

Mark 8:1-10 Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

8¹ During those days / another large crowd gathered. / Since they had nothing to eat, / Jesus called his disciples to him / and said, /
2 “I have compassion for these people; / they have already been with me three days / and have nothing to eat. /³ If I send them home hungry, / they will collapse on the way, / because some of them have come a long distance.”

⁴ His disciples answered, / “But where in this remote place / can anyone get enough bread to feed them?”

⁵ “How many loaves do you have?” / Jesus asked.

“Seven,” / they replied.

⁶ He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. / When he had taken the seven loaves / and given thanks, / he broke them / and gave them to his disciples / to distribute to the people, / and they did so. /⁷ They had a few small fish as well; / he gave thanks for them also / and told the disciples to distribute them. /⁸ The people ate / and were satisfied. / Afterward / the disciples picked up seven basketfuls / of broken pieces that were left over. /

⁹ About four thousand were present. / After he had sent them away, /¹⁰ he got into the boat with his disciples / and went to the region of Dalmanutha.

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Vocabulary

1. **To collapse:** Speaking of people: To fall down and become unconscious, usually through illness or injury.
2. **Remote (place):** Far away from a place. We often use this now with electronic devices, as in a remote control for a TV or a drone.
3. **To distribute:** To give out something. To share.
4. **To pick up:** Take hold of and remove. *The disciples picked up the leftovers. You might pick up another person to share a car ride.*

Adjective	Noun	Verb	Adverb
Collapsed		To collapse	
Remote	(The) remote		
	Distribution Distributer	To distribute	
A pick up truck	(A) pick up	To pick up	

Vocabulary Sentences

1. She collapsed during the marathon because of lack of water.
In the accident, the driver suffered a collapsed lung.
2. Usually we stay on the road, and we do not go to remote places.
Hand me the remote control, so I can mute the sound.
3. The Amazon.com Distribution Center is huge.
We distribute many thing from Distribution lists.

4. I need to pick up my son and his friends,
but I can't because my pickup only seats two or three people.

Questions

1. What does it mean in Verse 1, "During those days"?
2. How did travelers carry food in the time of Jesus?
3. How compassionate do you think we should be with other people: those we know, and those we do not know?

Notes

1. Jesus and the disciples have been traveling for quite a long time for they have walked to Tyre, Sidon, and are currently in the Greek and Roman area of the Decapolis.
2. This area is not Jewish as is Judea and Galilee. It is predominately Greek, Roman and other religions. Here we see Jesus serving and feeding not Jews, but probably Gentiles. The feeding of the five thousand was predominately or all Jews.
3. We do not know how long this trip with the disciples took. However, it was the intense training that Jesus did without the interference of the Jewish Pharisees, Sadducees and other Orthodox leaders. Here Jesus could teach and heal without having to defend or explain himself.
4. Travelers often carried their own food. We know the feeding of the four thousand is different from that of feeding the five thousand because the word for a Jewish travel basket that is tucked into the robe is *kophinoi*, and the word for the Gentile basket was *sphurides*. They are shaped differently.



kophinoi



sphurides

5. Jesus had compassion and consideration for the crowd of people. Jesus wanted the disciples to take the responsibility of feeding the crowd upon themselves. He was teaching by example.
6. Look at the following map and trace the roadways that Jesus used. It is useful to know that the Roman roads were well traveled and plentiful in this area.

