

Matthew 14:13:21

In the New Testament there are only 2 miracles recorded in all the four gospels. The resurrection and feeding of the 5000. Today's message is based on the latter.

Although the 4 gospels describe the miracle in slightly different ways, all of them describe the outcome in a similar feeding” and they did all eat and were filled.” Productivity is a notable fact in Jesus’ ministry and the ministry of the twelve. The feeding was of 5000 of men plus all the women and children who were present.

Once the late Colonel Harland Sanders –the founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken was on an airplane, when an infant screamed and would not stop even though the mother and flight attendants tried their best. Finally the Colonel asked if he could hold the baby. He gently rocked it to sleep. Later a passenger said “We all appreciate what you did for us”. Colonel Sanders replied, “I didn’t do it for us, I did it for the baby.”

Jesus wanted to be alone, probably because he was tired and grieving the death of his cousin, John also known as the Baptist. Maybe both. But he had compassion on the crowd the moment he saw them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. He immediately taught them many things and healed their sick. St. John says it was nearly the time for the Jewish Passover Celebration, in order to indicate Jesus’ earthly ministry was coming to its end. Apparently Jesus wanted to set free as many people as possible before his hour of death.

Sign seen in a textile mill, “When your thread becomes tangled, call the forman.” A young woman was new on the job. Her thread became

tangled and she thought , “I’ll just straighten this out myself.” She tried but the situation only worsened. Finally she called the foremen. “I did the best I could, “she said. The foreman replied, “No you didn’t. To do the best, you should have called me.”

Over 5,000 people were hungry and Phillip, one of the 12, wanted to send them away so they can buy food. Jesus told him to feed the crowd and he totally freaked out! Andrew said even the combined wages of so many months will not be enough to feed such a big crowd. Their natural minds couldn’t grasp the power of God. Jesus , however, knew what to do. He was just testing his disciples.