Revolution Through Satisfaction - Let's Go Mark 6:30-44 6-27-21

John 6:15 — "Perceiving then that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by Himself."

John 6:35 – "Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst."

Revolution - A powerful takeover.

Christian Hedonism is the conviction that God's ultimate goal in the world (His glory) and our deepest desire (to be happy) are one and the same, because God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.

Isaiah 24:14 – "They raise their voices, they shout for joy;...they praise the Lord's majesty..."

Psalm 34:8 – "Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

Psalm 22:26 – "The <u>afflicted</u> shall eat and <u>be satisfied</u>; those who seek Him shall <u>praise the</u> <u>Lord!..."</u>

Westminster Catechism question:

"What is the chief end of human beings?"

"Our chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever."

I. Revolution Through Rest from Ministry.

Mark 6:30-32 – "The apostles returned to Jesus and told Him all that they had done and taught. And He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves."

1 Chronicles 23:30 – "They were also to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD. They were to do the same in the evening"

II. Revolution Through Godly Compassion.

Mark 6:33-34 – "Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 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."

Matthew 9:36 – "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed & helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

Numbers 27:17 – "(The shepherd) shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep that have no shepherd."

Mark 6:36-37 – "Send them away...But He answered them, 'You give them something to eat.' And they said to Him, 'Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?'"

III. Revolution Through Meeting People's Needs.

Mark 6:38-41 – "And He said to them, 'How many loaves do you have? Go and see.' And when they had found out, they said, 'Five, and two fish.' Then He commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. And taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and said a <u>blessing and broke</u> the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And He divided the two fish among them all."

Matthew 4:4 – "Jesus said, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

IV. Revolution Through Seeing People Satisfied.

Mark 6:42-44 – "And they all ate and were <u>satisfied</u>. And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men."

Psalm 107:9 – "For He satisfies the <u>longing soul</u>, and the <u>hungry soul</u> He fills with good things."

Going Deeper This Week

- 1. What do you think was Jesus' purpose in having the disciples report about their mission? What benefit is there in sharing successes and failures with a group?
- 2. Do you have a tendency to work too much or too little? When Jesus invited the disciples to come away to a remote place, what does that say about the balance of work and rest?
- 3. What kind of activity in what kind of place restores your spiritual energy and equips you to resume ministry with renewed vigor?
- 4. How is a spiritual sabbatical different from a vacation? Can the two be combined?
- 5. Are peoples' "felt needs" sometimes different from what they really need? How can you determine what are the real needs of the people to whom you serve?
- 6. How can we meet the physical needs of people without turning our ministry into just a "social gospel"? (John 6:15, 26-27)
- 7. Have you known of a situation lately where the resources and manpower were clearly inadequate to complete the ministry task that God had unquestionably assigned? What happened?
- 8. What are some events that have brought you the most spiritual encouragement and prompted the most praise to God? Do these often arise out of impossible challenges?
- 9. How satisfied are you in God? Pray for one another to most glorify God when we are most satisfied in Him. (Psalm 16:11)