

## Follow up Questions from message on Sunday, February 12, 2017

### Nourishing Faith “Spiritual Meat and Potatoes”

#### Reread Matthew 14:13-21

1. Do you prefer to socialize with large parties, a dinner for four, or a quiet evening at home? Why?
2. If you had to feed 5,000+ people at a picnic, what would you serve? Why?
3. In verse 13, why was Jesus withdrawing to a solitary place? (see 14:1-12)
4. Why do you think the crowds followed Jesus and disrupted his mourning?
5. In verse 14, how did Jesus react to this interruption?
6. As evening approached, what sensitivity did the disciples initially show as they surveyed the situation?
7. How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus told them to feed the massive crowd?
8. What were the main obstacles they faced in fulfilling such a monumental task?
9. What significance, if any, might there have been in the 5 loaves and 2 fish that were available? (hint  $5+2=7$  symbolized completeness, enough)
10. What symbolism, if any, is there in Jesus blessing, breaking, and giving the bread to the disciples? Does this sound vaguely familiar? (the fish aren't mentioned)
11. What, if any, is the significance of the huge amount of leftovers from this miraculous meal? If there is symbolism in the number 12, what might it be?
12. If you had been one of the disciples, how would you have felt as you gathered up all those baskets of leftovers?
13. What can we learn for our lives of faith today from this miracle?
14. How has Jesus fed you recently, when you have been hungry?
15. Do you have a specific need in your life right now where you need Jesus to miraculously heal, free, or care for you?