

Small Group Leader Questions | March 24, 2019

Anyone leading the group this week may find additional Small Group Leader Resources at <http://www.wcchapel.org/resources-for-small-group-leaders/>

The Great Explorers — Jesus at Table with 5,000 – The Table Manner of Provision

Focus Passage: Luke 9:10–17 (Parallel accounts: Matt 14:13–21; Mark 6:31–44; John 6:1–14)

Context: Luke 9:10–21

Other Passages Referenced: Exodus 16:4, 21–33; Exodus 25:23–30; Leviticus 24:5–9; 1 Kings 18:13; 2 Kings 4:42–44; 1 Cor 11:17–22;

Sermon Recap: When Jesus multiplies bread and fish to feed more than 5,000 people in a desolate place, His table manner of **provision** starts in desolation and ends in satisfaction. The miracle not only points back to God’s regular and relational provision for His people throughout history, but it points ahead to the new thing He is doing in Jesus Christ: to provide for ultimate restoration of the broken relationship between God and man, to move us from the desolation of living for ourselves to the satisfaction we receive through trusting Jesus as Lord.

Background Helps

Herod the Tetrarch – The son of Herod the Great who had children under two years old killed in Bethlehem in an effort to kill Jesus as a child. ‘Herod the tetrarch’ (Lk. 3:19, etc.), who bore the distinctive name of Antipas. He was Herod’s younger son by Malthace, and inherited the Galilean and Peraean portions of his father’s kingdom. In the Gospels he is conspicuous chiefly for his part in the imprisonment and execution of John the Baptist (Mk. 6:14–28) and for his brief encounter with Jesus when the latter was sent to him by Pilate for judgment (Lk. 23:7ff.)¹

Hook: *Pick a Question to Help Ignite Conversation*

What are some good questions to ask around the dinner table?

Look—Observing and Interpreting:

READ Luke 9:10–17;

1. From what or from where were Jesus’ disciples returning in Luke 9:10?
2. In the immediate context, what is the big question Luke is trying to answer for his readers? (Read Luke 9:9 and Luke 9:18–20).
3. Reflecting on the three clues Luke gives in his account of the feeding of the 5,000—a desolate place, 12 baskets, and 50 each—what connections or parallels can you make between Jesus’ feeding of the 5,000 and events from the Old Testament? (It may help to read Exodus 16:4, 31–33; Leviticus 24:5–9; 1 Kings 18:4; 2 Kings 4:42–44.)

¹ F. F. Bruce, “[Herod](#),” ed. D. R. W. Wood et al., *New Bible Dictionary* (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996), 469–472.

4. What connections or parallels can you make between the feeding of the 5,000 with “the new thing that Jesus is doing” and other New Testament passages? (It may help to read Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23–32.)

Illustrations:

Illustrations and quotes can be found on the “Sermon Slides” link at the bottom of www.wcchapel.org

Took: *Applying the message to our lives.*

1. Can you share how you see the message applying to your life?
2. Are you satisfied in your life? If not, what do think it would take to bring you satisfaction?
3. Do you make a distinction between being *satisfied* and being *complacent*?
4. How have you asked and answered the question, “Who is Jesus”?
5. What might you need to do to more consistently gather at the table with your family, your small group, and the church, which is the “household of God?” What concrete step will you commit to in the coming week to make that happen?
6. What adjustments might be needed for you to improve your listening, understanding, and connecting relationally when you do eat together at table with others? Are you willing to ask this question to the people with whom you most frequently eat: “Do I do anything that leads you to feel I’m not listening or understanding you?”

Prayer: Please spend time praying for one another.