

YOUR POSITION BRINGS PROVISIONS

PART 2: THE PROVIDER THAT MASTERS TIMES AND CIRCUMSTANCES

MATTHEW 14:13-21

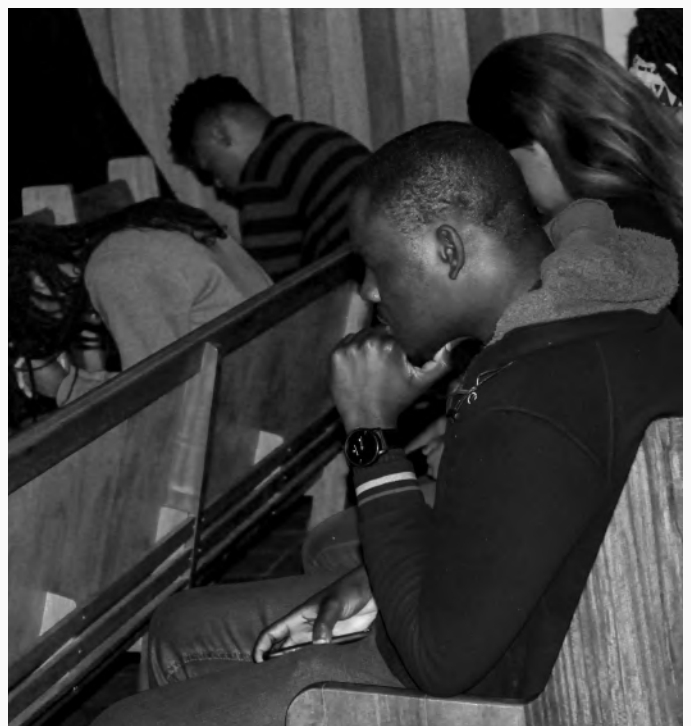
Here the focus is on how Jesus multiplied five loaves and two fish to feed the 5000 men, and there lies a great revelation of Him being the ULTIMATE Provider. It started with the people wanting breakthrough, deliverance and healing, and it ended up with the miracle of multiplication. So after Jesus had ministered to those that were there, He wanted to feed them too. Amazingly, the people didn't come for bread but for miracles, however, Jesus wanted to go beyond their need. That's why Paul says with assurance in Philippians 4:19 that "my God will meet all your needs according to His own riches in Christ Jesus."

He performed this miracle because He didn't want those that came to Him to go back hungry. Jesus was able to identify the people's unspoken need, this goes to say that He provides even to the needs that we are not aware of. Verse 15 says: Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

The disciples suggested that Jesus should send the people away because they were aware of the challenges at hand, but it is fascinating that Jesus responded by saying "they don't need to go away". This is the very same thing that Jesus is saying to you today, YOU DON'T NEED TO GO AWAY!

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The first challenge that the disciples bring up is that they were in a desolate place and the food they had wasn't going to be enough – that is the challenge of CIRCUMSTANCES.

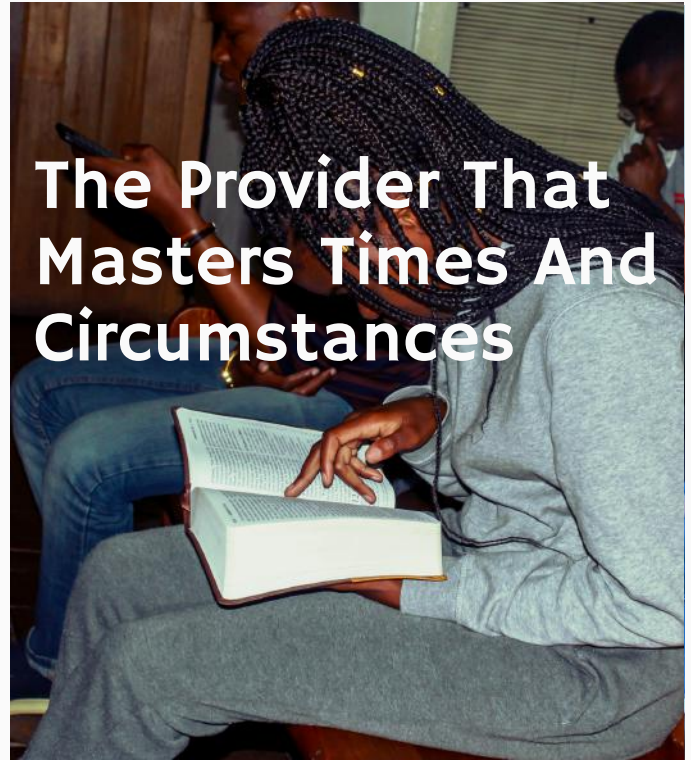
A desolate place can represent a place of unproductivity. These are seasons of life where it seems that things aren't going forward in the direction we would like them to move. It feels like we are barely getting by.

The second challenge that the disciples were aware of was that it was getting late and the day was over – that is a challenge of TIME. The evening represents the closing of the day. There are times when we face situations that are so pressing and it's like life is closing in on us. And it feels like there's darkness all around us and everything seems hopeless.

But as you read this, Jesus wants you to stop noticing the challenges and start noticing Him.

The disciple's solution to overcoming the challenges of time and circumstances was to send the people away. They wanted to overcome their challenge without the Master Himself. How often do we react in the same manner by trying to beat the challenges without the intervention of The Master of Times and Circumstance? We are so quick to take matters in our own hands and dismiss a potential miracle because of the impossibility that's in front of us. We need to understand that what seems impossible to the eyes of man is not impossible to God.

It's ironic how we are always tempted to leave the presence of the provider in our search for provision. You have to ask yourself, is it the provision that you want, or is it the provider that you need? Provision can finish, we can be exhausted from searching for provision, but Jesus the provider has an unlimited supply of resources.



From the five loaves and the two fish that the disciples gave to Jesus, He multiplied it. As long as you stay with and by Him, God is asking you to bring the little that you have so that He can do wonders with it. Our five loaves and two fish can be the little sacrifices, like our prayers, the sacrifices of time to attend a gathering and many others including our gifts and offerings. So whatever you have in your hands is enough in God's presence for Him to produce a miracle for you and others around you.

The five loaves and two fish wasn't enough in the hands of the disciples, but in the hands of Jesus, it was more than enough to feed a crowd of 5000 men. On that day, Jesus produced more than what the disciples expected. His provision will always surpass the common understanding, the breaking of bread – which seems to make the bread smaller by division, turned out to be a miracle of multiplication.

What Jesus is telling you today is that you don't have to leave His presence to search for provision. Refuse to be pressured by the time that seems to pass you by, nor by circumstances that are beyond your control. Choose to stay with Him, trust Him with what you have, and He'll supply to your pressing need, to the unspoken need, and your abundance will overflow to those around you.

