

Luke 9:10-17 Largest quantitative miracle that Jesus performed. The only miracle short of His resurrection that is recorded in all four gospels.

- ✓ This may be the greatest work of creation since creation. He was producing more food out of what? Ex Nihilo "from nothing."
 - ✓ But the people were so superficial! Jesus is meeting their temporary needs, so they will listen to His message about their eternal needs.
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1. Jesus sent the disciples out with supernatural gifting, but only for the sake of human suffering.

- ✓ This is the realm that Jesus limited Himself to; virtually all of His miracles were an expression of compassion, the compassion of God.
 - ✓ Jesus was the full expression of God in human form.
 - ✓ Never do we see God as clearly as we see Him in the person of Jesus Christ.
 - ✓ When we see Jesus, we see everything that is true about God, great power, great wisdom, great consistency, great sympathy, and compassion for people.
 - 1) Jesus cared that they rested.
 - 2) Jesus cared that the crowd needed healing.
 - 3) Jesus cared that they needed to hear about the kingdom.
 - 4) Jesus cared that they had something to eat.
 - ✓ He was compassionate despite their shallowness. **Mathew 14:14**, "compassion" here refers to one's gut; in other words, He churned in His gut over these people and their situation.
 - ✓ **Mark 6:34** Great compassion and concern. Human suffering causes God to suffer.
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2. Why does God Care?

- ✓ Why should God care if you miss a meal? Well, He shouldn't but He does! This is an exceptional testimony to what is called God's common grace.
 - ✓ Why should God care if you get what your sins so richly deserve? He shouldn't, but He does.
 - ✓ **2nd Peter 3:9**; Why does He not just write people off and turn a cold shoulder? Because it's not who He is!
 - ✓ Why should it bother Him when people suffer? It shouldn't, but it does!
 - ✓ He finds the reason to care for us within Himself.
 - ✓ He out of compassion, even though we are rebels, has provided for us.
 - ✓ Food is an amazing common grace; it's available to the God haters and the God lovers; not just food but good food, enjoyment in eating it, even satisfaction.
 - ✓ This was a miracle of common grace; He healed out of common grace.
 - ✓ He pitied all of them and had compassion on all of them.
 - ✓ He was compassionate despite what He knew; these same people would ask for another sign tomorrow. He would tell them He is the actual bread from Heaven, and they would reject Him.
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Luke 9: Common Grace

- ✓ Miracles are divisive occurrences; they either make you better or they make you bitter; they increase your faith or crystalize unbelief. If they don't flip you from unbelief to belief, they harden you and send you over the edge.
 - ✓ John gives us the postscript on this event. John 6:26 "not because you saw signs;" signs don't point to themselves, but to something else. Signs that He's the Savior.
 - ✓ John 6:27 "You're missing what the signs point to" your ultimate need.
 - ✓ John 6:28-29 "all this food and you will still die; all this healing and you will still perish. Can't you see that there is something more important than your temporary needs?"
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