

# Harmony of the Gospels

# Feeding the five thousand Matthew 14: 15-21; Mark 6:35-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:4-13

- The proximity of the Passover would explain the large crowd.
- Jesus here begins to invite the disciples into the work He is about to do.
- Notice how he does this a step at a time. He did not reveal up front all that He was going to do.
- Philip had the typical response to analyze the situation and point out the obvious impossibility of the endeavor.
- Andrew goes looking for food and brings what he finds to Jesus. He also sees the inadequacy in the provisions he has discovered but still brings it to Jesus.

# Feeding the five thousand Matthew 14: 15-21; Mark 6:35-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:4-13

- Our resources, as inadequate as they are, when brought to Jesus are more than enough to do what He has purposed to do.
  - The people ate their fill
  - 12 baskets filled after this

A premature attempt to make Jesus king blocked  
Matthew 14:22-23; Mark 6:45-46; John 6:14-15

- This miracle in addition to the amazing teaching they had heard from Jesus and the healings that had taken place earlier brought the conclusion that Jesus was the promised one, the Messiah.
- As Jesus will point out in further teaching, they were simply looking at this from a worldly perspective of a king who would fill their bellies and release them from earthly oppression.
- Jesus quickly defused the situation by sending the disciples away, disbursing the crowd and going up into the mountain alone to pray.

Walking on the water during a storm on the lake  
Matthew 14:24-33; Mark 6:47-52; John 6:16-21

- Fourth watch of the night was 3:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- It was probably dark enough that only the form of a person could be distinguished. Mark tells us it was Jesus' intention to pass by them.
- Jesus lays their fears to rest by identifying Himself.

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- Jesus' reaction to the desire of the crowd to make him king may have confused the disciples. It would seem a logical step to present Himself as Messiah after months of teaching and miraculous ministry crowned by the miracle of the feeding of the 5000.
- Perhaps Peter's request to walk on the water with Him revealed a need for reassurance as to His identity as the Son of God.

Walking on the water during a storm on the lake  
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- As Jesus and Peter got into the boat and the wind ceased, the response of the disciples reveal that the reassurance had been received.
- A Personal Note:
  - This was the scripture God used to bring me to faith in Christ.
  - My personal experience by the Sea of Galilee

