

LOVE INCARNATE

Learning to Love Like JESUS

Love is Birthed & Matures by Faith (4)

5/11/08

Text: John 6:1-15 (SEE also Matthew 14:13ff; Mark 6:32ff; Luke 9:10ff)

John 6:1-15 – ¹“After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ²And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. ⁵Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” ¹⁰Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.” ¹³So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!” ¹⁵Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.” (SEE also Matthew 14:13ff; Mark 6:32ff; Luke 9:10ff).

Quick Review....

Aim: To love like Jesus.

FIRST THEME – LOVE SHOWS COMPASSION

- By Making _____.
- By Bringing _____.
- By Taking _____.

SECOND THEME – LOVE S_____ THE TRUTH. It balances honesty with compassion and compassion with honesty.

THIRD THEME – LOVE DEPENDS ON GOD

- Love is fed by Prayer & W_____ !
- Love Stays Focused on Pleasing _____ (and *not* Man)
- Love Understands the “C_____” (*psst....*this side of heaven)

FOURTH THEME: LOVE IS BIRTHED & MATURES BY FAITH (in the Lord Jesus Christ).

FAITH is not some kind of s_____ energy.
FAITH goes to God with our w_____.

The blueprint to love like Jesus (our overall aim) – to house a compassion that is sacrificial and contagious; to speak honestly, gently and at times firmly to both friend and foe is to depend on God from the outset. And that dependence is BIRTHED AND MATURES BY FAITH.

If we are to love with compassion.... Speak the truth with just the right balance between honesty and compassion and depend on God to do so, WE MUST P_____ OUR F_____ IN J_____ to make it so.