

Grace Groups Homework
"The Good Shepherd"

Mark 6:30–44

10 February 2019

Grace Groups Homework (10 February 2019—Mark 6:30–44)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What is the hungriest you've ever been?

WORLDVIEW

2. Social interventions and community programs that only address the physical needs of people are doomed to fail and be ultimately ineffective. Do you agree with this statement? What alternative would you propose?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. In Mark 6 there appears to be a deliberate contrast between two very different shepherds, and two very different feasts. What distinctions do you notice between these two occasions?
4. What Old Testament motifs, themes, and principles do you see alluded to in Mark's account of the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand?

DIGGING DEEPER

5. Christians, and especially those who are responsible for leading the church, should be wary of the dangers of physical, spiritual, and emotional fatigue. Is this a real or merely imagined danger? Is it overstated? How are these dangers overcome?

6. What characteristics of a servant-leader or shepherd-king does Jesus exemplify in this passage? Does one have to be called and gifted to fulfil the same role?

7. When people decide to follow Jesus, many needs will be created. What needs? How are these followers going to be sustained and enabled to continue following?

8. The biblical record does not indicate how many of these five thousand miraculously nourished men continued to follow Jesus. They certainly weren't around in support when he was crucified in Jerusalem. If this is true, did Jesus achieve what he intended to in performing this miracle? Did this miracle enable Jesus to successfully achieve his ultimate purpose?

As you do your regular grocery shopping, please remember to add something to your trolley to donate to the Food for the Family ministry. Regularly used items include: rice (1kg or 2kg); juice; washing powder (auto or hand wash); cooking oil (750ml or 2-litre); peanut butter; syrup; jam; tea; coffee; sandwich spread; pilchards; tuna; cake flour; baked beans; butter beans; mixed vegetables; tomato and onion mix; other canned foods; Cremora or long-life milk; pasta; noodles; condiments (tomato sauce, mustard), etc.; sugar (1kg or 2.5kg); mielie meal; bath soap; deodorant (roll-on); toothpaste. Speak to Patson Ngidi for more information.