



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Like the disciples, my faith is weak, and I lack trust in God to give me all good things. **For the sake of His Son, Jesus, God promises to provide for all my needs and gives me the gift of faith to believe in Jesus as my Savior and receive eternal life through Him.**

Bible Words

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst."

John 6:35

Fun Fact

Jesus did this miracle near the Sea of Galilee. Although Jesus grew up about twenty miles away in Nazareth, much of His ministry happened around this sea.

Capernaum on the sea's northern edge became His home base. Peter and Andrew, fishermen and two of Jesus' first disciples, lived there. Two other disciples, James and John also fished these waters with their father.

Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

John 6:1–14

Many children cite the feeding of 5,000 as their favorite miracle of Jesus, perhaps because Jesus miraculously multiplied the lunch of a small boy, two fish and five barley loaves, to feed the crowd.

This miracle is even more amazing when you consider that 5,000 counted only men in the crowd. When you add women and children, Bible scholars estimate that Jesus fed 15,000 to 20,000 people that day.

Afterwards, even bigger crowds followed Jesus, hoping for a handout. Jesus told them to seek salvation through Him, not food for their bellies. He didn't come to be a bread king. Rather, Jesus said He is the bread of life, who gives salvation to those who believe in Him (see Bible Words at left). Many considered this a "hard saying" (a difficult teaching) and abandoned Him (John 6:60, 66).

We find great meaning for Jesus' words in the Lord's Supper, where we consume "the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine" (The Sacrament of the Altar, Luther's Small Catechism). In this Sacrament, we receive the forgiveness of sins and all other blessings for life and salvation. Christ's body and blood strengthen us to live as His people.

The Purpose of Jesus' Miracles

Only God can do miracles, extraordinary events we cannot explain in human terms. Miracles show God at work.

Jesus' miracles were signs that showed He is true God and the promised, long-awaited Messiah. The miracles showed He has complete authority and power in heaven and on earth.

With compassion and love for the people, Jesus healed many and restored health and life. In love, Jesus healed all who believed in Him from the sicknesses of sin and death and defeated the devil when He died on the cross and rose from the dead.

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