

## **The Gospel of Mark**

### **Feeding the Multitudes**

Mark 8:1-10

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Though there are many similarities between the feeding of the 5,000 (Mk. 6:31-44) and the feeding of the 4,000 (Mk. 8:1-10), these are two distinct miracles performed by Jesus. The history of God's miraculous provision of food for His people has always been a reminder that He is the only God who provides (Ex. 16:35). God is the only one who has the power to create something from nothing (Jn. 1:3), and this miracle was a demonstration that Jesus has the authority to do what only God can do.
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus' constant disposition toward the people with whom He came in contact with was compassion (Mk. 8:2). Jesus felt compassion for the people because they were spiritually unguarded and unguided (Mt. 9:36; Mk. 6:34; cf. Mk. 8:15). He also showed great concern for people's basic physical needs (Mk. 8:2; cf. Mt 6:25ff). As Christians we are called to follow Jesus' example of being compassionate and merciful to others (Eph 4:32; Col. 3:12; 1 Pet. 3:8; cf. Lev. 19:18b; Lk. 10:33).