**Sermon Notes – Insurrection Series**



**“How the Kingdom Comes”**

Mark 8:1–21

During those days another large crowd gathered. Since they had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 2 “I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. 3 If I send them home hungry, they will collapse on the way, because some of them have come a long distance.”

4 His disciples answered, “But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?”

5 “How many loaves do you have?” Jesus asked.

“Seven,” they replied.

6 He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. When he had taken the seven loaves and given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and they did so. 7 They had a few small fish as well; he gave thanks for them also and told the disciples to distribute them. 8 The people ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 9 About four thousand men were present. And having sent them away, 10 he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the region of Dalmanutha.

11 The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven. 12 He sighed deeply and said, “Why does this generation ask for a miraculous sign? I tell you the truth, no sign will be given to it.” 13 Then he left them, got back into the boat and crossed to the other side.

14 The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf they had with them in the boat. 15 “Be careful,” Jesus warned them. “Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod.”

16 They discussed this with one another and said, “It is because we have no bread.”

17 Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: “Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? 18 Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don’t you remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?”

“Twelve,” they replied.

20 “And when I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?”

They answered, “Seven.”

21 He said to them, “Do you still not understand?”

1. The root of all ministry, whether physical or spiritual, is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ towards people.

2 Corinthians 5:14  
14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

2. Jesus loves and feeds these people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**How the Kingdom Comes**

The kingdom comes, not through our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but Jesus’ love, grace, and power working in and through us.

Matthew 6:33  
33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What was the most memorable takeaway from this message for you?

2. Do you struggle with believing God wants to use you and your uniqueness to bring life and hope to others? Why?

3. Is there a project, event or cause that your group feels burdened to help support? Pray together about opportunities to open up in the future.

4. The Pharisees trusted in their own righteousness to bring about God’s kingdom. Herod trusted in his wealth and power. Which of the two is your heart most tempted by in terms of thinking “this” will bring about God’s kingdom?

5. Practically speaking, what do you think it means to “seek first his kingdom and his righteousness”?

6. Do you think Jesus provided a miracle to these 4,000 because they had listened intently to him for three days without food? Explain your answer.

7. What are some practical applications you believe people should take away from this text?