



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Mathew 15:32-15:19

Title: Discerning the Signs of the Times

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 11/22/2020

Discussion Starter – What are some of the things that you think help you in discerning the times we are in right now? What are some of the thing that you have learned from this message about what to do in these times?

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand (Matthew 15:32-39)

- Read Matthew 15:32. What does this verse reveal to us about Jesus? How should this encourage us in our own lives today?
- Describe what you see taking place in the conversation between Jesus and the disciples as they react to what Jesus said in verse 32?
- Why do you think the disciples did not remember the feeding of the five thousand? What does that tell us about how we tend to react when facing a God given task? What does Jesus tell them to do? How does this lesson relate to some of the principles of our own walk with God?
- Jesus wants us to trust in His power and not in our own ability. Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. What insights do we learn from this passage of scripture and how can we apply it to our own lives?
- Read Matthew 15:35-36. Why do you think Jesus repeats each step He did in this miraculous feeding of the four thousand Gentiles exactly as He did with the feeding of the five thousand Jews? What pattern is He teaching us here and how is this different than the other miracles He did?
- What is the spiritual significance of the left over fragments that were collected in both of the feedings? How are the fragments related to being filled?

Not All People Come to Jesus with the Right Motives (Matthew 16:1-19)

- Why was it unusual to see the Pharisees and the Sadducees coming together to see Jesus? What do we know about each group and what were their motives? Why were they unable to see Jesus for who He was?
- To properly follow Jesus we need to understand our role and His role. Explain how these roles work. Read 1 John 1:8-9. What additional insights do we gain about our roles in these verses?
- Humility is an important ingredient in our ability to properly follow Jesus. What specific fruit is generally evident in our lives if true humility exists and how does this relate to the Pharisees and the Sadducees?
- Read John 5:38-40. To properly follow Jesus we need to study Him. Bible knowledge does not always equate to knowing Jesus. What were the Pharisees and Sadducees missing? What does it mean to study Jesus?
- What was the leaven that Jesus was warning the disciples of and what's today's application?
- Read Matthew 16:13-19. How do these passages encourage you, knowing that we do not on our own have the power to change our nation? What should this not deter of from doing?