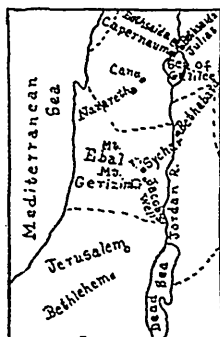


Andrew . . saith ; eager to help now, as he had been to bring Peter to Jesus, ch. 1 : 41, 42. Lad ; literally, a little lad or "laddie." None are too young to help in the Lord's work. Five barley loaves ; round flat cakes like hard tack : the food of the poorest. Two small fishes ; small pickled fishes used as a relish. "Bring them . . to me," said Jesus (see Matt. 14 : 18). And he asks us to do this with our abilities and means, however small they may be, that he may use them in supplying the world's need.

III. THE SATISFYING MEAL.—10-14. Make the men sit down ; as to a full meal, and not a mere bite that might be eaten standing. Besides, when they were thus arranged in order, there would be less danger of any being overlooked. Jesus would not have any one in the wide world miss his share of blessing. Much grass ; "green grass," says Mark (ch. 6 : 39) : it was in the spring time. Men . . five thousand ; and probably as many more "women and children," Matt. 14 : 21. Jesus . . had given thanks ; "asked a blessing," like the head of a great family. All men are brothers, children of one heavenly Father, Acts 17 : 28, 29. Distributed to the disciples . . disciples to them . . set down. Jesus provides all blessings ; he calls us to carry them to others. Twelve baskets . . fragments . . over and above ; so abundant was the provision. So there is a full supply in the gospel for all mankind. This . . that prophet ; like Moses (Deut. 18 : 15-19), through whom God had given the manna to Israel.

Vs. 15-21 tell how Jesus withdrew to a mountain, to avoid being made a king ; and how, when a storm arose at night, he came, walking on the water, to the disciples, whom he had sent across the lake in a boat, and how then the boat came safe to land.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



TIBERIAS was a city built by Herod Antipas on the west coast of the Sea of Galilee, between A.D. 20 and A.D. 30, and named after Tiberius, the reigning Emperor of Rome. The name of the city was sometimes given to the sea. About the middle of the second century A.D., Tiberias became the centre of Jewish learning. A famous school was established there, and at one time it contained no fewer than

thirteen synagogues. The Jews regarded it as one of their four sacred cities, the other three being Jerusalem, Hebron and Safed.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1-4 Of what event had Jesus just learned ? From what had the apostles just returned ? Whither did Jesus take his disciples ? For what purpose ? Who followed him ? What feast was at hand ? What banquet took place about the same time in Herod's palace ? (Mark 6 : 21.)

5-7 Whom did Jesus consult about feeding the multitude ? What was Philip's reply ? What miracle was wrought by two disciples who had no money ? (Acts 3 : 4-7.)

8, 9 What did Andrew say ? What did he think of the provision ? Show that God often uses humble instruments. (1 Cor. 1 : 27-29.)

10, 11 How were the crowds arranged for the meal ? Describe the distribution of the food. Who provides all blessings ? What does he expect of us ? How abundant was the supply of food ? On whom do we depend for life ? (Matt. 4 : 4.)

12-14 How did Jesus prevent waste ? What quantity of fragments were gathered up ? What did the people think of Jesus ?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Does Jesus need our help in his work ?
2. Is any one too young to serve Christ ?

A PRAYER

We thank thee, Lord Jesus, that thou hast taught us to pray : "Give us this day our daily bread." Thou knowest what we need, for our bodies and for our souls. Provide things needful for us. Make us more eager for the bread of life than for the bread that nourishes the body. Make us strong for thee. Glorify thy name in us and in all about us. And to thee shall be all the glory. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—That God can do all things. Shorter Catechism—Review Questions 1-11.

The Question on Missions—(March, OUR JEWISH DISPENSARY WORK IN CANADA)—9. Who come to our Jewish Free Dispensaries ? Poor Jews who are sick and are unable to pay for medical treatment. At the free dispensaries maintained by our church in Toronto, Winnipeg and Montreal, they secure proper medical aid, with the assurance that, while advice and medicine are given free, they are not inferior to the best they could secure by paying for them.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What was Andrew's part in the miracle ? The boy's ? Christ's ?
2. What was the effect of the miracle ?

SIGN NAME HERE