

A SENSE OF GOD'S HISTORY

Mark 8:1-21

Key Verse: 8:20

* JESUS' COMPASSION (1-9)

1. Read verses 1-2. "During those days" refers to what time and place? (See 7:31) When and where had there been a similar incident? (6:30-44)
2. When Jesus saw this large crowd, what did he think? What can we learn from this about Jesus' compassion? (Compare with God's compassion in Ex 34:6.) How can we have such compassion?
3. Read verses 2-3. How is Jesus' shepherd heart for the crowd revealed? (See Jn 10:11,14) How had Jesus ministered to them for three days? What does this show about their real needs and his understanding of this?
4. How did the disciples respond? (4) What progress had they made since the time Jesus fed the 5,000? What shows that they needed to grow in faith? What kind of thoughts may have been in their minds?
5. What did Jesus ask and how did they answer? (5) What did Jesus do with the people, the loaves and the fish? Why did he give thanks? How did the disciples participate? What was the result? What does this teach about how to do the mighty work of God?

* MIRACLE-SEEKING JEWS (10-13)

6. Where did Jesus and his disciples go after feeding the crowd and sending them away? Who came to him and why? What did they really want? What did Jesus say and do? Why did he refuse their request?

* JESUS TEACHES A SENSE OF HISTORY (14-21)

7. Of what did Jesus warn his disciples? What did he mean? How did they understand him? Why did they think like that?
8. How did Jesus rebuke them? What questions did he ask them? How did they answer? How do they reveal their lack of a sense of history? How did Jesus teach them a sense of history?
9. What is a sense of history? Why is it important for a Christian to have a sense of history? (Think of some Biblical and other examples--Jn 9:25,27; 1Ti 1:15.) How can we have a sense of history?