

## Thanks for the Miracle

Did you ever wonder what happened in the baskets? In the miracles of the loaves and fishes we're told they collected the leftovers in baskets.

But how did they pass out the food in the first place? Surely the disciples also passed the food out in baskets.

If I had been there, by the time the basket got to me I would have been mighty curious about how much was left in it. I would have been staring pretty hard at that basket while I took out my portion. I wonder how it looked—did more bread and fish just appear in the spot where some was removed? Or did it sort of well up from the bottom of the basket?

Of course, we don't know. But we do know people. We really haven't changed that much in a couple of thousand years. What were the people seeking there? Jesus knew that at least some of the multitude were more impressed with the fact that he fed them than they were at how He did it. In John 6:26 he told them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled."

Some people scoff at the idea of feeding thousands from almost nothing. But I've seen miracles and I've experienced healing, and I know that the God I serve is a miraculous God. However I heard something in a sermon the other day that pulled me up short. He said that the children of Israel got to the point that if they didn't see a miracle every day they didn't believe God was with them.

Wow. Why do I seek Him? Is it because I might see a miracle and experience His power? Or do I genuinely want to have Him living in me?

This Thanksgiving Day I hope that all of us stop to thank Him for the food, the shelter, the families, the jobs, the riches, the blessings, the wonderful things of life. In fact, I hope all of us stop and worship Him.

But I also hope that every believer would ponder the real miracle in our lives. If all the turkey, all the football games, all the friends and family and fun and provisions of this mortal life were removed, would we still praise Him and thank Him for the real substance He has given us?

As we stop to thank Him this weekend, let's remember to thank Him for the real miracle: His sacrifice, His death, His resurrection, and the gift of eternal life.