

The Gospel of Matthew: The Crowd Wondered

Discussion Guide for March 14 and 15, 2026

Summary

This week's message explores Matthew 15:29-39, where Jesus heals many people and miraculously feeds a crowd of four thousand. As the people witness the lame walking, the blind seeing, and the sick being healed, Matthew says "the crowd wondered." Their amazement led them to glorify the God of Israel.

This moment reveals an important kingdom truth: Jesus came not only for Israel but for all people, fulfilling Isaiah 49:6 that God's salvation would reach the ends of the earth.

Moved by compassion, Jesus feeds the crowd after they have been with Him for three days. With just a few loaves and fish, He once again provides abundantly. This passage reminds us that our provision ultimately comes from the Lord, and when we see God at work, our response should be worship, gratitude, and sharing His goodness with others.

Ice Breaker

Have you ever witnessed something that left you amazed or speechless? What was it, and how did it affect the way you thought about the situation afterward?

Key Verses

1. Matthew 15:29-39
2. Isaiah 49
3. 2 Corinthians 12:9
4. 1 Thessalonians 5:16
5. Philippians 4:11-13

Discussion Questions

1. In this passage the crowd witnesses Jesus healing many people, and their response is wonder and worship. Why do you think people are often amazed by God's power but still struggle to fully trust Him?
2. Isaiah 49:6 reveals that God's salvation was always meant for the nations. What does this teach us about God's heart for all people?
3. Jesus shows deep compassion for the crowd and feeds them even when the disciples are unsure how it will happen. Why is it sometimes difficult for us to trust that God will provide for our needs?
4. Martin Luther said, "God creates out of nothing. Therefore until a man is nothing, God can make nothing out of him." What do you think this means about humility and dependence on God?

5. The miracle of feeding the crowd shows that Jesus provides more than enough. How can remembering God's past faithfulness help us trust Him in present challenges?

Life Application

This week, practice recognizing God's provision in your everyday life. Pay attention to the ways God provides – whether through opportunities, relationships, encouragement, or practical needs. Instead of taking those moments for granted, pause and thank Him.

Then take one step further: share that story with someone else. When we talk about what God has done, we help others see His faithfulness too.

Key Takeaways

1. Jesus came not only for Israel but for all people.
2. God's compassion moves Him to care for both spiritual and physical needs.
3. Our provision ultimately comes from the Lord, not our own strength.
4. Seeing God work should lead us to worship and gratitude.