

# Always Keep Jesus in The Equation

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## Mark 6:35-37 (BSB)

*<sup>35</sup>By now the hour was already late. So, the disciples came to Jesus and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is already late. <sup>36</sup>Dismiss the crowd so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” <sup>37</sup>But Jesus told them, “You give them something to eat.”*

The title of this reflection is the thought that came to my mind during a conversation with a friend recently. We were discussing serious “life issues” when, she routinely added, “I am also just believing God will provide.” That familiar declaration reminded me of something I had not been doing as I examined this critical issue, “keeping God in the equation.” This was also what the disciples forgot in this familiar biblical account.

The text suggests the day had been long, and the hour had grown late. The men, women, and children, would soon be looking for something to eat, and the disciples thought it would be best if they ended the day’s activities, so they the people could go, and “buy themselves something to eat.” Jesus offers a challenge, “you give them something to eat.” Stunned disciples think about the time – it’s late, and what about the money, “should we spend that much.” But the disciples forgot to include Jesus in the equation. It’s easy to make that mistake. As we try and navigate “life,” choices, decisions, setbacks, and opportunities, we can sometimes spend too much time looking at the facts and not strengthening our faith. The Bible consistently reminds us that faith trumps the facts, why? Because with faith Jesus is always a part of the equation.

So, right now you’re in the midst of making some decisions, you are having some serious “life discussions.” Perhaps like me, or the disciples, you made the subtle oversight of not remembering that Jesus is “in the midst of it all.” For the disciples and the hungry crowd, money was not even necessary. All Jesus needed was a little boy, with a small lunch and He worked a miracle. I know you’re looking at the facts, but for Jesus, it MAY not take all of that. Just bring Him what you have and watch Him work a miracle. As my friend shared, “I am just believing God will provide.”

Whatever you are facing today, please remember that Jesus is in the midst of the battle with you. Call out to Him and let Him know you are trusting Him and are open to the miraculous perspective he can bring to your situation. Always keep Him in the equation.