



“The Del-Haven Vision”

“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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(38) “But He said to them, ‘How many loaves do you have? Go and see!’ And when they found out they said, ‘Five, and two fish’. (39) Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. (40) So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties.” (11) “And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. (12) So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, ‘Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost.’ (13) Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten.” Mk.6:38-40; Jn.6:11-13

Have you ever been tired and hungry? I mean really dog tired and gut wrenching hungry? The universal longsuffering of our Lord is graphically demonstrated in this all too familiar incident that includes a lot of people being in one place at the same time and tired and hungry. This is the context of one of His most famous miracles.

The Bible tells us that many of this substantial multitude of people were gathering to the deserted place where Jesus and the twelve were retreating before they, themselves, even got there (Mk.6:32). Many of these folk needed healing of various ailments that only Jesus could perform. They all needed to be taught by Him the many things concerning the Kingdom of God... which, again, only Christ could effectively do. And then the long day of ministry approached the hour of mealtime. The disciples advise the Lord to send them away so they could find something to eat, but Jesus intended (Jn.6:6) something quite spectacularly different. The result puts on display the truth that Jesus is, indeed, creator Son of God. He sovereignly provides for all their immediate physical needs. Praise His mighty Name!

This is true enough, and indeed very wonderful, but we would do well to observe the demonstration of true discipleship that this whole event also depicts. These men are the ones that He, the Son of God, specifically chose to follow Him. Just before this event took place, these same chosen ones He had endued with special power and authority and sent them out to minister the gospel. Now, it is these same chosen ones that He commands to organize this mob of people into orderly ranks and groups so that they all may be served by them and fed to the full. In this manner they were all physically nourished and strengthened. Effective evangelism, therefore, often involves rendering a total service by those who truly are disciple-servants of Jesus.

It is also revealed that the results of this service are not to be taken for granted. From the rest of John six we see that a lot (if not most) of these same people that were the recipients of this great miracle ultimately did not believe in Christ. It says that they turned away from following Jesus (Jn.6:64-66). This came to pass when the weightier truth that no one can truly come to God the Son unless God the Father draws them was announced. The servants of the Lord had to learn this, also.

*For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter*

The Ministry of Del-Haven

The Lord has ordained that Del-Haven be a full service ministry of the gospel of the glory of Christ. The children that God sends to us are both physically and spiritually served. From morning to evening, the ministry of the gospel is performed at play time and meal time -- all the time -- as our Lord has commanded that it should be. After all, God's loving, saving grace provides a rich and full service for all those upon whom He bestows it. The salvation of the chosen sinner is complete; and because it is complete -- we are then complete in Him (Col.2:10a). This truth inspires and motivates us to persevere in prayer in the pursuit of *"receiving the end of our faith the salvation of souls"* (1Pe.1:9). We continually covet your prayers and support toward this same end.



Prayer Requests

Next month already marks the annual review of the credit line loan that we have once again secured at the Commercial Bank of Oak Grove. This we have done in order to be able to meet the expenses that will be incurred with the renovation of the lake, and putting in the new water lines. To date, we have used just over \$23,000.00. Please do not forget to be praying with us that we can stay ahead of the major indebtedness that we potentially face in ultimately completing these projects.

Please pray with us concerning our God-sent source of outreach to the hundreds and hundreds of children that we invite to camp each year. The really nasty strain of flu virus that has attacked so many, so hard, this year has struck the family of the dear saint whose help is so vital to our outreach. Let's all be in prayer that the Lord will heal and deliver so we can once again successfully infiltrate directly into the enemy's territory in order to win souls for Christ! Satan knows where to strike a crippling blow, but there is victory in Jesus! *"Do not rejoice over me, my enemy! When I fall, I will arise. When I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me."* Mic.7:8

"But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered." Rom.6:17