

Where are you?

Before we start, you probably remember that the Queen of Sheba paid huge amounts and traveled very far to hear the wisdom of King Solomon, the king God made more wise than any other. (I Kings 10:4)

Yet Jesus honestly said about himself, "Someone wiser than Solomon is here." (Luke 11:32)

During this story (and during the present day) people who know God is working position themselves to receive as much as they want.

1. The disciples of Jesus were as close to him as they could get. Every day they walked with him, heard his teaching, and saw his miracles. They even got to take part in them, often doing miracles themselves.

2. There were others who found their way to the front of the crowds. They heard and saw awesome things and their lives were very changed by that close contact.

3. Others hung farther back and were content to hang out with the crowd, see some spectacular things, and hear great teaching off and on. Their lives would have been bettered, but obviously not as much as they could have been.

4. Others were so far back

in the crowd, the miracles might have been hard to see, the teaching hard to hear, and the effect in their lives minimal.

5. Others were traveling to the event. Maybe they had heard about it too late. Maybe they wanted to finish what they were doing. Maybe they had decided to not go and changed their minds.

6. Some stayed home. They either didn't know Jesus was in their area, they knew and couldn't go, or they knew and didn't care. They received no benefit from the event.

### Where should you be?

Every one of these groups could have moved closer to Jesus.

Locate yourself in this list and do what you can to move to the next level or higher, to get closer to Jesus.

You will be eternally glad if you do.

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The comments are mine. Mike Kangas.

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Otumba, Mex, Mexico  
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# Where To Be John 6:5-14

John 6:5 When Jesus looked out and saw that a large crowd had arrived, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread to feed these people?"

John 6:8 One of the disciples--it was Andrew, brother to Simon Peter--said, "There's a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But that's a drop in the bucket for a crowd like this."

John 6:10 Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." They sat down, about five thousand of them. Then Jesus took the bread and, having given thanks, gave it to those who were seated. He did the same with the fish. All ate as much as they wanted.

John 6:12 When the people had eaten their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the leftovers so nothing is wasted." They went to work and filled twelve large baskets with leftovers from the five barley loaves. The people realized that God was at work among them in what Jesus had just done.

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People were in six spots during this event

# Where To Be

Considering that Jesus is the wisest man who ever lived, the God of creation, and the judge of the world, and...

Considering that he does not prefer one person over another, wants all to hear and follow him, and gives to them freely, and...

Considering that our calendar is dated from the day he was born and a billion people still assert that he lives and his teaching is relevant today...

Where is the optimal place to be when we approach Jesus Christ?

1. The disciples were very close to Jesus. They received the maximum from him.
2. Group two were close but not as involved. They received much, but could have received more.
3. Group three were less involved, less dedicated, received much less.
4. Group four attended the event, but received hardly anything.
5. Group five were at least trying, but received little.
6. Group six were the big losers. No commitment, no reward.

