

provide what we need. Second, we are reminded again that Jesus has a strong concern for the physical wellbeing of those who follow him, doing what he can to make sure that they are rested and fed. Third, the fact that these thousands of people share the same food among themselves suggests that they set aside any divisions of class or conflict to break bread together. This is part of Christ's mission, to call us to communion with one another in himself.

## Wrapping It Up

*Consider these points to conclude the discussion and reflection. Integrate the thoughts and ideas that surfaced during the discussion as well as the "Church Teaching Connection" on page 238.*

**Jesus continues to express care for both the spiritual and physical health of those he meets.**

**We should trust in God's providence to give us what we need when we need it.**

**Jesus brings us together and invites us to be in communion with him and with one another.**

## Act on the Word

### Visio Divina: Tissot's "The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes"

*For this activity, you will need a way to project or show an image of James Tissot's painting The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes.*

Begin the activity by offering this preface:

"This exercise is called visio divina, which means divine or holy seeing. It is similar to the practice of lectio divina, but with an added element of looking at a depiction of the scene from the reading. As we prepare for this practice, I invite you to find a place and posture where you are comfortable, but not so comfortable that you might fall asleep. Now, let us take a few moments to remind ourselves that we are always in God's presence."

After a few moments, read the Gospel aloud. After completing the Gospel reading, display the image of Tissot's "The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes" with this instruction: "As we reflect again on

the reading, take some time to look at this image in silence. What do you see? What stands out?" Then read the Gospel passage again.

Give the teens a couple of minutes to study the image and reflect on what they heard. Then say, "I invite you to share what you observe. We won't worry about interpretations or ideas yet. Just what do you notice? What do you appreciate?"

If the young people are hesitant to share, you can point out things like the scenery, the garments the figures are wearing, and the colors used. Once the teens have finished sharing their observations, read the Gospel one more time as the young people continue to look at the image.

After that reading, invite the following discussion: "Now, let's share what we think the image is trying to communicate. How does it interpret or develop the passage that we just read?" After some more sharing, invite the teens to reflect on what they heard from one another as you read the Gospel passage one last time. After this reading, conclude with the following closing prayer.

## Closing Prayer

*God of abundant life,  
you feed us through Word and sacrament.*

*Help us to keep prayers of thanksgiving  
on our lips,*

*always realizing that you answer  
our every need.*

*We place our complete trust in you  
now and always*

*as we pray through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

## For Next Sunday

*To help teens prepare for next Sunday's Mass, print, email, or share on a blog or social media the handout found on the next page. The JPG and PDF files are available at [www.ltp.org/lwgr](http://www.ltp.org/lwgr). Encourage teens to attend Mass with family or friends.*