

**Ron Armstrong • October 12 & 13, 2019**

**Original: A Little Evil Goes a Long Way**

**Mark 8:11** The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven. [12] He sighed deeply and said, "Why does this generation ask for a miraculous sign? I tell you the truth, no sign will be given to it." [13] Then he left them, got back into the boat and crossed to the other side.

[14] The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf they had with them in the boat. [15] "Be careful," Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod."

[16] They discussed this with one another and said, "It is because we have no bread."

[17] Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? [18] Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don't you remember? [19] When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?"

"Twelve," they replied.

[27] Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

[28] They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

[29] "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

**A. A little goes a long way: signs, yeast, and bread.**

1. The Pharisees, Herod, and the forgotten bread are deliberately squished together because they are all about UNBELIEF.

2. Mark shows us 3 types of unbelief:

a. Deliberate REFUSAL to see the truth. The Pharisees wanted a sign from heaven, not Jesus.

b. IGNORANCE of the truth. Herod thought Jesus was John the Baptist coming back to haunt him (Matt 14).

c. Not paying ATTENTION to the truth. The disciples had just seen 5,000 people fed with 5 loaves. How many did they need?

3. Some thought of the yeast as evil, but the real point was, "A little bit goes a long way." It will work its way into every corner of you.

4. Jesus' warning, "Don't underestimate the impact."

a. A little ADULTERY goes a long way.

b. A little ENVY goes a long way.

c. A little REVENGE goes a long way.

d. Lots of "little" things, if allowed to stay, will change who you are.

**B. Daily Christ-followership always comes down to you.**

1. Jesus had an interest in public opinion, but a laser-like focus on ONE person at a time.

2. There is no Christ-followership by marriage, inheritance, osmosis, or tradition. It comes down to you, Jesus, and the question.