**Feeding the 5,000**Luke 9

Only miracle that is described by all four Gospels  
ancient mosaic 1700 yrs old.  
people fascinated.  
Why did writers include this story?  
Proclaim the gospel with NO resources  
then debrief, staff retreat. 20,000 find them  
turns into Woodstock.  
  
India: 170 homeless people, 1/3 of all malnourished children live in India, 12 million children are orphans.Little flock. founder finds Jesus at Berkley in the 70's  
ViJi born in India, married in USA  
says" Grace means Jesus conqueror karma"  
12 million orphans in India / nothing she could do, what could she do?

**1. Totally depend on God with the Impossible**What do we think is too big for God to handle?  
 *“Send the crowd away...” Luke 9:12*This was a nice thought, it was getting late *“About five thousand men were there...” Luke 9:14*what impossible problems do you have? habits, kids, grandkids, thoughts, state of California?  
this situation with the multitude was an impossible situation.    
There were no resources.  no place to buy bread. 200 dinari 1 is a day's wage This is a desolate place,   
Immediate food for twenty thousand-plus, are you kidding?  And He’s really not looking for help from Philip.  He’s not looking for some suggestion.  What is He doing?

Testing us.

Elisha Feeds One Hundred Men

42 One day a man from Baal-shalishah brought the man of God a sack of fresh grain and twenty loaves of barley bread made from the first grain of his harvest. Elisha said, “Give it to the people so they can eat.”43 “What?” his servant exclaimed. “Feed a hundred people with only this?”But Elisha repeated, “Give it to the people so they can eat, for this is what the Lord says: Everyone will eat, and there will even be some left over!” 44 And when they gave it to the people, there was plenty for all and some left over, just as the Lord had promised. 2 Kings 4:42-44  
**6**He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do. John 6:6

Do you have faith? Do you trust God.

**26**Jesus responded, “Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!” Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. Matthew 8:26  
“You have so little faith! Why are you arguing with each other about having no bread? **9**Don’t you understand even yet? Don’t you remember the 5,000 I fed with five loaves, and the baskets of leftovers you picked up? Matthew 16:8 (feeding the 4000)

And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? Luke 12:28

Live by faith, not by sight 1 Corinthians 5:7  
And it is impossible to please God without faith. Hebrews 11:6

what problem you’re currently facing, it didn’t catch God off-guard.

**The fact that something is impossible is no excuse for not trying to do it.** *All too often we conclude that something can’t be done so we don’t bother trying to do it*.   
If Moses had taken that attitude, the Jews would still be in Egypt.   
If Joshua had felt that way, the walls of Jericho would still be standing.   
If David had adopted that opinion, Goliath would still be terrorizing the Israelites.  
 You never know in advance what God may do so don’t rule out the possibility of a miracle coming your way.

**2. Give it Away  
What Little you have Away for the Glory of God  
What do we think is too little for God to work with?***“We have only five loaves of bread and two fish...” Luke 9:13*Do not despise these small beginnings, Zech 4:10

A well known fact is, most of the fortune 500 companies in the world today, actually started inside a garage or a basement. I learned, Google whose net worth is $36.9 billion at the time of this sermon, started in the Garage of a house.

You can only harvest what you plant. In other words, if you haven’t sown it, God can’t multiply it.   
Don't horde it. Your time, money, compassion, etc.. Give it away. God gives to us to give to others.  
We are a conduit   
What is not enough. The math was correct…but they forgot Jesus.  
Yourself, not enough time, talent, brainpower….you're probably right, without JESUS. But start with what little you and watch what God does.  
David, Moses, Jesus rose the dead, heal the sick, they were DAHciples.  
Give thanks even though it seems like not enough.  
**We can’t do anything about this year’s harvest, but we can change next year’s.**The old proverb states: The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The second-best time is today

 your generosity toward God and others often determines his generosity toward you.

where God guides, God provides.  
Jesus takes what we have and multiples it.

(A) In [Exodus 3:13](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/Exod%203.13) the Lord asked Moses, “What is that in your hand?” Moses said “It’s my staff”. God anointed the staff and Moses could perform miracles with it.

(B) In [1 Kings 17:7-15](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/1%20Kings%2017.7-15) the widow in Zarephath had only a handful of flour and a little cooking oil. God blessed these and the widow didn’t run short.

(C) In [2 Kings 4:2](https://biblia.com/bible/niv/2%20Kings%204.2) Elisha asked the widow “What do you have?” The widow said, “Nothing but some olive oil” God blessed that and the rest his history!

Money, last of it, give to God  
Time, don't want to give it, seem to get more done  
Energy  
  
Years ago I ran across a quote from J. Hudson Taylor, a great man of faith whose missionary efforts helped open China to the gospel. Time and again he saw God do amazing things in the face of hopeless circumstances and murderous hostility. Reflecting on his experiences, he remarked that “there are three stages in any work attempted for God: Impossible, Difficult, Done.”

**3. Sit down and Wait  
Submit to the Lord's Command's and be willing to Wait***"Tell them to sit down in groups of about fifty each." Luke 9:14*Organized in 50 and 100's  
*But be sure that everything is done properly and in order. 1 Corinthians 14:40*The 5000 have to submit to the command. It wasn’t their place to say, “I think we ought to sit in groups of 60” or “I think we should eat standing up.” We Americans are far to impressed by what we think. The kingdom of God is not a democracy. Command came from the disciples  
It takes faith to submit to His delegated authority.  
Read God's word  
 the Holy **Spirit**—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. John 14:26  
he'll remind you what you have read.  
Read the Bible. Every day  
find a time and place  
read, pray, go.  
God does things in a decent and orderly way  
  
  
**4. Share the Blessing***"he kept giving the bread and fish to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people." Luke 9:16*

He abundantly meets needs.  
And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your **needs** from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:19

He insisted on doing this miracle through the hands of the disciples. Dr. Criswell said "God’s hands you are the mightiest of the mighty, greatest of the great, most powerful of the powerful.  It’s God that does it.  Ten thousand times have I seen men with exceptional gifts stand in the way of God. They shine.  And when you see them, you see them.  They are very gifted.  In how many ways are they blessed, but they stand in the way.  You don’t see God.  You see them.  How many times have I seen a humble somebody, maybe a humble preacher without superlative gifts, but he’s given himself to Jesus, and when I listen to him and when I see him, I see the Lord."  
**God asks us to do the impossible and then he gives whatever we need to obey his command.** Erwin Lutzer points that Jesus often told people to do impossible things. To a lame man he said, “Rise, pick up your bed, and walk.” To a dead man, he cried out, “Lazarus, come forth.” There is a sense in which every command of God is impossible for us to obey. ***We always lack what we need to obey God’s commands*.** But God is faithful to give us whatever we need when we ask him. *What God demands, he supplies*. He “bids us fly and gives us wings.”

KEY PHRASE: **WHAT could we do because we believe God will provide?** What will you do?

Veegee sees a movie. I have to do something, what do you want me to do. 14 million orphans in India, wanted to do something.  
tried to forget about it. then 2 nights later prayed  
I have to do something, WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?  
build a children's home….she felt from God.  
needs someone to run the home. NOTHING, went to India, frustrated.  
sitting in internet café. Wrote home. Can't find anyone.  
from south india, couple to run the home. Nothing private.  
I know Gilbert and Maleny to run the home.