

BRING WHAT YOU HAVE

We should bring the best of our time, talent, and resources to Jesus—regardless of how insignificant they may seem—because He can use them to bless others.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Matthew 14:13 begins by letting us know that “as soon as Jesus heard the news” that He left in a boat to go to a remote place to be alone. But what news was the gospel writer, Matthew, referring to?
- ❖ The news Jesus heard was that His cousin John the Baptist had been killed by King Herod Antipas. After hearing about His cousin, Jesus was seeking a place of solitude
- ❖ The Greek word for “heard”, *akouo*, implies not only hearing but also understanding and processing information.
- ❖ Jesus’ withdrawal was not an act of fear but a strategic retreat for reflection, prayer, and preparation.
- ❖ This action highlights the importance of solitude in our spiritual life, and the need for us to take time away from all the busyness and chaos of everyday life in order to seek God’s guidance.
- ❖ From the human perspective, Jesus was seeking alone time to process the news about His cousin John. But when the crowds heard where Jesus was headed, they followed Him.
- ❖ Even though Jesus, as a human being, was dealing with tragic news, the reality was that the world around Him still needed His help as the express image of God present in the world.
- ❖ There are times when we as the children of God will face unfortunate events in life. Like Jesus, we too must process these experiences through seeking time alone with God. We also must recognize that the people around us whom we interact with still need to experience the divine presence of God—the light of God—within us (Matt. 5:14-16).
- ❖ Jesus wanted to find a solitary place to process the tragic news He had received. But after exiting the boat He was travelling in, He encountered a large crowd and, upon seeing them, “he had compassion on them and healed their sick” (Matt. 14:14). He also spent time teaching them (Mark 6:34).
- ❖ As the day progressed and evening came, the disciples came to Jesus and told Him to send the crowd away to go into the villages to buy food. This was because they were in a remote place and it was getting late.
- ❖ The disciples recognized a legit need the people had, the need for food, and were looking for it to be satisfied by other means. So, when Jesus told the disciples to feed the people, their reaction is understandable: “With what? We’d have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!” (See Mark 6:37.)
- ❖ There was an incredible crowd of over five thousand people that needed to be fed, and the disciples only had two fish and five loaves of bread.

KEY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 14:13-21

(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- ❖ So, the disciples told Jesus that what they possessed was insufficient to meet the need of the people. But Jesus instructed the disciples to bring what they had to Him.
- ❖ We need to bring what we have to Jesus. We need to bring the best of who we are to Jesus, and we need to give Him our time, our talents, and our resources, regardless of how insignificant we may feel they are.
- ❖ Jesus took what they disciples gave Him and blessed it. The Greek word *eulogeō*, translated as “blessed”, means: to praise, give thanks to, speak well of, extol. In the passive sense it means to be blessed; to receive blessing.
- ❖ When the disciples brought their insufficient resources to Jesus, He blessed it and caused it to be enough to meet the tremendous need of the people.
- ❖ Jesus could have fed the people directly, but He chose to involve His disciples in the process of meeting the need of the people by giving them the five loaves and two fish to distribute to the crowd.
- ❖ It was only after they began to distribute the bread and fish Jesus had blessed that it became clear that what they had brought to Him was sufficient enough to satisfy the needs of the people.
- ❖ In fact, it was more than enough because it produced leftovers!
- ❖ The people we interact with on a daily basis need the help, healing, deliverance, comfort, hope, and salvation that only Jesus can provide.
- ❖ Jesus could have directly provided help to the people in need, but He chose to enlist His disciples and made them part of the solution.
- ❖ We need to bring what we have to Jesus. He *can* bless it, and He *will* use what we have to bless the people around us.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. The disciples brought what they had to Jesus and it was more than enough to feed over five thousand people. Discuss at least two or three other instances in the Bible where people brought what they had to God and it was more than enough to meet that present need (i.e., the widow’s olive oil in 2 Kings 4).
2. “Bring What You Have”. Have you ever brought your insignificant resources to God and He multiplied it? Testify about your experience!

PRAYER TIME

Lord, take what I have and shape it according to Your will. May I be a part of *Your* solution. Amen.

Start-up: When invited to a potluck, what dish do you make (or buy)? Is there a particular dish someone makes that you look forward to?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.



(Reminds me/Confirms)



(New idea)



(Think about)



(Do this)



(Speaks to my heart)



(Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE
WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: U.P.C.I. Ontario District departments, leaders, participants

24-hour Prayer: Monday, Wednesday & Friday;

Daily Devotions: Tuesday & Thursday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

Departmental Prayer: Every Thursday (please check schedule)

Corporate Prayer: Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.), **Saturday** morning from midnight to 3:00 a.m., and **Sunday @ 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 Phone Access: 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give

For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



MONTHLY LEADERS' MEETING

Sunday, July 27th @ 1:15 in the Upper Chapel.

Zoom (Co-)Hosting Training

Date: Sunday, August 10th @ 4:00 p.m.

Access is via the FS "Departmental Meetings" Zoom room (link is on the Faith Sanctuary home page - scroll down)

Contact: Bro. Mike Allen

PROMO VIDEO

We're filming a promo video for our upcoming Faith conference, and we want YOU to be a part of it! Come camera-ready and full of energy, and let's show the world what God is doing! For more information, contact Sis. Andrea Peel.

WOMEN'S PRAYER

Calling the women of Faith to the throne room of God! **Every Thursday**, there is Women's Prayer on the Faith Sanctuary Zoom Prayer line from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a powerful prayer meeting that is led and facilitated by the women of Faith Sanctuary. Please join us as we approach the throne of God "with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Contact: Sis. Memory Mangwiro

FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.

(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled

(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JULY 27, 2025



Feed Canada to Feed the World



Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

*"The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."
1 Corinthians 3:8-9 (NIV)*

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