

## More Than a Miracle – Week 5 Small Group Questions

### Ice Breaker

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you were called to step out in faith, trusting that God would provide, even when circumstances seemed challenging?
2. Share about a time when you were part of a community coming together to meet a need, experiencing firsthand the power of collective generosity and provision.

### Scripture

John 6:5-15, Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, “Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?” <sup>6</sup> He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip replied, “Even if we worked for months, we wouldn’t have enough money to feed them!” <sup>8</sup> Then Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up. <sup>9</sup> “There’s a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?” <sup>10</sup> “Tell everyone to sit down,” Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward, he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, “Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted.” <sup>13</sup> So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw him <sup>[b]</sup> do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, “Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!” <sup>15</sup> When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

### Discuss

1. The disciples had already witnessed Jesus perform countless miracles, yet they still questioned how they would feed all these people with what they had. Can you relate to their doubts, or do you think they should have known better?

2. What can we learn from the boy who offered his five loaves and two fish? How does his example challenge our attitudes toward generosity and faith?
3. Pastor Jeff asked, “How often do we not live in the enough because we are too focused on what we don’t have, or what we think we won’t have, instead of what God’s already given me and what He’s able to do?” How would you respond to this question? Do you tend to focus more on what you don’t have than what you do?
4. What in life right now makes you feel you don't have enough and wish God would multiply it? Why?
5. Read John 6:10-11. Pastor Jeff said that “thankfulness and trust are not based on the amount in our hands, but the attitude of our heart.” Do you agree? What does having the right “attitude of the heart” mean?
6. Why do you think Jesus instructed the disciples to gather the leftovers after everyone had eaten? What might this detail signify? (See the Leader’s Note)

### **Leader’s Note:**

“This command is omitted by the other evangelists. It shows the care of Jesus that there should be no waste. Though he had power to provide any quantity of food, yet he has here taught us that the bounties of Providence are not to be squandered. In all things the Saviour set us an example of frugality, though he had an infinite supply at his disposal; he was himself economical, though he was Lord of all. If he was thus saving, it becomes us dependent creatures not to waste the bounties of a beneficent Providence. And it especially becomes the rich not to squander the bounties of Providence.” Barnes Commentary

7. Reflecting on this passage, how does Jesus’ provision for the physical needs of the crowd relate to his broader mission of providing spiritual nourishment and salvation for humanity?

**Practice** 

1. What is one thing that you can take away from this message?
2. Over the next month, keep a journal of some kind where you specifically record God's provision in your life.
3. Take some time soon to host a meal, inviting friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. Sharing a meal is a great way to practice hospitality, just as Jesus did with the crowd.