



PART 3: MAKING ROOM FOR MULTIPLICATION

Sermon Notes*

Text: Matthew 14:13-21

**These notes are based on chicken scratch written by pastor Dave during the sermon, and may not be exactly what Len Denbraber said.*

Intro:

Matthew 21:18-19 - Jesus curses the fig tree for not bearing fruit.

Faithfulness is important, but not at the expense of fruitfulness.

Some Christians/Churches look mature, but on closer inspection, they lack fruit.

Matthew 14:13-21 - Jesus feeds the five thousand

The Kingdom Principle of Multiplication:

God only asks you to bring what you already have

When we bring our best and our first, God can bless it even if it doesn't seem like much

The miracle of multiplication happened only once the disciples started to distribute the supply

Luke 6:38

We can hang on to what we have and be satisfied, or we can be open handed and receive an overflow.

Conclusion

Ephesians 3:20-21

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What do you get like when you're hungry? When you're really hungry, is there a specific "go-to" food you crave to satisfy you?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. How would you define the words "faithfulness" and "fruitfulness" (as they relate to a Christian or a Church)? How do you measure faithfulness and fruitfulness?
2. Read the Bible text from Sunday (Matthew 14:13-21). What stands out to you? What would it have been like to be in the crowd that day? What would it have been like to be one of the disciples handing out the food that just refused to run out?
 - The disciples assumed that what they had wouldn't be enough to feed all those people (who wouldn't?). But it was all Jesus needed. Do you find that there are times when you assume that what you have isn't enough for God to be able to use you? Name something you do have (a talent, a story, a resource, a piece of gum - anything, no matter how small!) and brainstorm ways that Jesus could use it.
3. Read Luke 6:38 and Ephesians 3:20-21. Len said that we can keep what we have a probably be satisfied, or we can open our hands and receive an overflow. How do these verses relate to that statement?

- The Luke 6 passage talked about withholding judgement and offering forgiveness (see v. 37). If we withhold forgiveness and cast judgement the same principle applies ("give and it will be given to you"). Have you found this to be true?

Application:

1. Len said "God only asks you to bring what you already have." What do you have that you can offer to Jesus so that he can multiply it?

Prayer:

- Pray for miracles of multiplication as we offer Jesus what we have.

Other Requests

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