



Big Idea: The Gospel According To John – Read John 6

Pastor Joel Buffington - Part 5

This week Pastor Joel unpacked the feeding of the 5,000 in John 6. A huge crowd had gathered to listen to the teachings of Jesus. Scholars estimate that there could have been up to 20,000 people gathered in this place. As the day was ending the question was posed, ‘How are we going to feed all these people?’ Jesus was testing his disciples.

Jesus allowed his disciple to wrestle with an impossible situation before he stepped in with the solution. You may be facing a test that you may not have the answer to; Jesus already does have the answer! Jesus is testing us to see if we have learned the lesson. Why does God test us? **God puts us in impossible situations to stretch our undeveloped faith and to change our perspective.** Are we paying close attention to what God is saying or are we focused on the problem? **When God speaks, listen to what He was saying to you.**

The disciples looked at the problem through the lens of their limited resources.

Philip was limited because he was focused on what he could do... “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!” “Another of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, ‘Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?’”

Luke 1:37 “For with God nothing will be impossible.”

There is no gift is too small for God to use. God takes small things and uses them in big ways! Take note that Jesus gave thanks for the little that they did have. **Thanksgiving is the doorway to the presence and power of God.** And what happened??? Everyone ate until they were full and there were 12 baskets of leftovers. **Jesus is more than enough, and He doesn’t waste anything.**

Discussion Questions

- God’s most amazing work often begins in the biggest need or in times of brokenness. What are you facing right now that would require a miracle? Discuss this.
- What tests have you faced have you experienced and what was the result?
- Can you recall a time when God did a miracle in what seemed like an impossible situation? Share how God has strengthened your trust in Him and stretched your faith.

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for being a God of miracles. Help me to believe that no matter what my situation may be, You are willing and able to do a miracle in my life. During these days of uncertainty, I pray that You will be near to me, protect me, and heal our land.

Next Steps

This week begin thinking about the things you are believing God for. The more impossible they sound, the more the Lord can do. Next to each prayer request, write out a scripture of encouragement. As you pray over these requests, also read aloud the scripture to help remind yourself that nothing is impossible for God!

Leader Tip

Be ready to share any miracle, big or small, that God has done in your life. Opening up about a miracle you’ve experienced may help them identify ways that God has moved in their lives as well.