

The Principle of Multiplication

Luke 9: 10-17

Do you **trust** God to provide the resources, solutions, and answers to the problems of your life?

Everything belongs to God. Everything we have comes from the Lord.

Circle the ones you have put into God's hands: questions and doubts emotions
talents time money and possessions family self my eternity

Which is the hardest for you to let go and let God handle it?

(Take time to pray for those who are willing to share an area of struggle.)

Luke 9:10-17.

Narrator: And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him,

Disciples: Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place.

Narrator: But He said to them,

Jesus: You give them something to eat.

Narrator: And they said,

Disciples: We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people.

Narrator: For there were about five thousand men. Then He said to His disciples,

Jesus: Make them sit down in groups of fifty.

Narrator: And they did so, and made them all sit down. Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave them to His disciples to set before the multitude. So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.

John 6:9 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, **but what are they among so many?**"

What feeling did Andrew express that we often feel when we're involved in ministry?

Jesus knows we don't have a lot to offer, but what does He want us to do with the little we have?

What does Jesus do with our insufficient offering?

If we offer nothing to God He has nothing to work with and therefore He cannot bless us.

- 1. Commit your limited resource into the hands of Jesus.**
- 2. Patiently wait for Him to bless it.**
- 3. Give away what He gives back so it can multiply.**
- 4. Remember there will be more than enough.**

Tell of an experience when you gave what little you had to God and He blessed it, gave it back to you, and multiplied it to bless you and others.

What is the significance of the 12 baskets left over and the 7 baskets left over in the two miracles where Jesus multiplied the food to feed a crowd?

God wants us to know that Jesus came for **all** people. Our responsibility is to get the gospel out to **everyone**.