

SERMON-BASED STUDY: A LOT FROM A LITTLE

John 6:1-15, ESV – *After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ² And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³ Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. ⁵ Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷ Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little.” ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹ “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” ¹⁰ Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.” ¹³ So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!” ¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.*

Notes:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we see that Jesus provides more than enough for our needs. Share a time when Jesus has provided more than enough for a need in your life?

2 In this passage, we also see how people react differently to problems. Review Philip's and Andrew's reaction to the problem. How do you typically react to a problem? How can you be better in this area?

3 Why does Jesus choose to let us "fail forward"?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Philippians 4:10-20, ESV** – ¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

4 Paul mentions that he is not in need because he has learned to be content in every situation. How does Paul define contentment?

5 Paul also mentions that he knows what it is like to be in need. What were some of the needs that Paul had? What are some needs that you have experienced? Explain.

6 How can true contentment change a person's outlook on true "needs" versus "wants"?

B **2 Corinthians 9:8-12, ESV** – ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” ¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹² For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

7 Looking at the passage above, explain how God’s provision is more than just physical needs.

8 What does it mean to have “all sufficiency in all things at all times”?

9 How is God’s grace toward us an investment in others and moving His kingdom forward?

TAKING IT HOME

Jesus always provides more than we can ever need, physically and spiritually. His provision is so great, it should overflow to those around us. How are you doing living a life of contentment with His provisions? How are you doing at allowing others to be touched by the overflow of His grace in your life? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to live in His provision.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Exodus 16:16-20

2 Kings 4:42-44

John 6:35