



Stretching the Menu

Text: John 6:1-14

Prayer

Icebreaker: Can you think of a time when you had unexpected company and had to stretch the menu? What did you do to make sure everyone had enough to eat?

1. What annual feast brought thousands of Jewish pilgrims from other nations back into Israel each Spring? John 6:4

2. What had the disciples recently accomplished for Jesus?
Matthew 10:5-8; Mark 6:7, 30; Luke 9:1, 6, 10

3. What dilemma did Jesus and His disciples face because of the multitudes that were thronging to see Jesus, and what did Jesus propose? Mark 6:31-32

4. What did the crowd do when they saw Jesus and His disciples get in the boat and head across the Sea of Galilee? Mark 6:33

5. What was Jesus response to the multitude on the far side of the lake when he saw them? John 6:1-3; Mark 6:34; Luke 9:11

6. What concern did the disciples have as the day was coming to an end? Luke 9:12; Mark 6:35-36

7. What question did Jesus ask the disciples? John 6:5

8. What motive did Jesus have in asking this question? John 6:6

Jesus already has the solution to our dilemma before we ask. Our extremity is God's opportunity. Don't despair! Hardship and human need is God's way of testing and proving your faith. Can we believe God to do the impossible through our limited resources and abilities? *God isn't as interested in our ability as He is our availability and obedience to do what He asks.*

9. What impossible instructions did Jesus give to His disciples to test their faith? Luke 9:13a

10. What amazed response did Philip give when he heard this? John 6:7

11. What solution did the disciples come up with when faced with the tremendous human need of feeding 8-12,000 hungry people? Mark 6:36

12. What resources did they find to bring to Jesus when He asked them to take an inventory of what they had? Mark 6:38; John 6:8-9

13. How did Jesus allow His disciples to participate in what He was about to do? And what is the application for us today? John 6:10; Luke 9:14

14. What is Jesus able to do with the resources and abilities we are willing to put in His hands? John 6:11; 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, & 31

15. What do you think happened with the leftovers? John 6:12-14

Think about it this week:

Moses yielded his shepherd's rod to God; David had a sling; Samson used a jawbone; Dorcas used her sewing needle; the widow gave her two mites, and a lad gave his lunch to Jesus. What has God placed in my hand that I can yield to Jesus hands to bless others?