

January 11, 2019 - David Sullivan
God's Provision - God as Multiplier, Part 2
Luke 9:1-17



Luke recounts that Jesus sent out the twelve to do ministry. Once they were back together they tried to get away for some rest, but the crowds found them. It was late in the day and they were in a remote area, so Jesus tells His disciples to feed them. Then He simply asked, “what do you have available?” The reply? 5 loaves and 2 small fish. As Pastor Robert Morris likes to say, “they found a young boy that had slipped into town and went to Captain D’s and got the two-fish meal deal with extra bread.”

Jesus then gave them simple instructions, seat the people in groups of about fifty. They did this and brought what little they had to Jesus. He blessed it and then asked them to distribute it to the crowd. At this point in the story you need to understand that this took a huge step of faith by the disciples because the bread and fish had not yet been multiplied. Each disciple turned to face a crowd of 15,000-20,000 hungry people while each was holding 1/12th of two pieces of fish and five loaves of bread. It wasn’t until they broke it and gave it away that the LORD multiplied it! Jesus blessed it, but it took the action by the disciples before the miracle of multiplication occurred!

Perhaps you are considering what you want to give to Destination Next, this new campaign. Maybe you are looking at what you have and your resources and saying to yourself that you simply don’t have enough to give. We serve a God that is a multiplier and not a divider! You don’t have to divide what you have between family needs, bills, and utilities and give what is left over to God. We serve a God of limitless resources and supplies!! In the feeding of the 5,000, the little boy first had to be willing to give up his lunch and the twelve disciples had to risk being embarrassed in front of the crowd by attempting to feed them with such a small and seemingly insignificant amount. Jesus could have simply snapped His fingers and fed the crowd, but He didn’t. He chose to feed them through the disciples who could only give as they received. They trusted, were amazed, and took part in one of the most significant miracles of Jesus’ short ministry here on earth.

What about you? Are you willing to allow the LORD to show Himself as a God that is a multiplier and not a divider? As the song *Ordinary People* says, “Little becomes much as you place it in the Master’s hands.” Jesus multiplied the bread and the fish as the disciples broke them and gave them away; likewise, what may seem as little to you becomes much as you place it in the Master’s hands – you simply need to take the step of faith and allow the LORD to provide through you.