



SERMON NOTES:

Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down.

– **Matthew 15:29 (NIV)**

Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.

– **Matthew 15:30 (NIV)**

Earthly lowliness is always the setting required for Heaven's miracles.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

– **2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)**

The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

– **Matthew 15:31 (NIV)**

The purpose of a miracle is always to draw your attention to the miracle worker.

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Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

– **Matthew 15:32 (NIV)**

His disciples answered, "Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?"

– **Matthew 15:33 (NIV)**

"How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked. "Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish."

– **Matthew 15:34 (NIV)**

He told the crowd to sit down on the ground.

– **Matthew 15:35 (NIV)**

Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people.

– **Matthew 15:36 (NIV)**

They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

– **Matthew 15:37 (NIV)**

The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

– **Matthew 15:38 (NIV)**

After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

– **Matthew 15:39 (NIV)**

When we focus on all that we lack, we forget all that God has.

We all have doubts that cripple us.

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Looking towards your deficiency has never been the solution to a problem.

Miracles start by recognizing what you do have.

What do you have? Because God will never multiply that which you do not recognize.

God won't multiply what you won't bring.

Jesus gave thanks for something that was never enough.

Until we get to the point where we can be thankful for what is not enough, then what we have won't be multiplied into what's more than enough.

God used what was never enough to produce that was more than enough.

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things —and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.

— 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 (NIV)

The blessing was in the breaking.

That which refuses to be broken, refuses to be blessed.

We want the blessing but we don't want the breaking.

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food." Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. "Bring them here to me," he said.

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– Matthew 14:14-18 (NIV)

Maybe the answer to your current problem will be found by looking back at a past solution.

The season may be different but the source is the same.

Three things to remember when it feels like God has forgotten:

1. Remember His faithfulness

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us."

– 1 Samuel 7:12 (NIV)

The strength you need for your current situation is found in what He did in your previous situation.

2. Remember the bread

They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

– Mark 6:51-52 (NIV)

His past provision is proof of His ability to provide right now.

If He did it then, He will do it again.

3. Remember the source

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

1. Take some time to reflect on God's past faithfulness. How can you more intentionally remember those moments?
2. Looking towards our deficiency has never been a solution to a problem and God won't multiply what you won't bring. What are some of the areas in your life where you feel deficient and need to bring it to God?
3. Jesus gave thanks for something that was never enough. What are some ways you can better practice gratitude?
4. When we're experiencing doubt, we should remember God's faithfulness, remember the bread, and remember the source. How can you better respond to moments of doubt?
5. Sometimes the blessing is in the breaking. Think back on times when you felt broken. How did you see God use those seasons to bring blessing?