

What If I Am Broke?

John 6:4-14

“Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

- John 6:8-9

As your group time begins use the following questions to get the conversation going:

Did you buy a lottery ticket when the jackpot was up to \$1.6 billion recently? Why or Why not?

What is your definition of “broke?” Are “broke” people obligated to give to God financially?

Do you feel like you do a good job managing your income? Do you use a budget?

Jesus ministered to people with all kinds of needs. Our passage today focuses on the feeding of the 5000 and the fact that these people needed Jesus to give them something. But before they were blessed by God it would require them to take a step of faith. Jesus teaches us how to approach giving when we don’t feel like we have anything to give.

When you don’t feel like you can give **START WITH WHAT YOU HAVE.** Read **John 6:4-9** together.

What assumption did the disciples make when it came to feeding the people? What was there mistake?

What was different about the boy’s mindset? How do we tend to have the disciples attitude when it comes to our giving?

Read Mark 12:41-44 for the story of a woman who gave out of what she had. Discuss Jesus’ reaction. How does this story apply to what Pastor Erik meant when he said “You can’t afford NOT to give?”

When you give, **GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE TO JESUS.** Read **John 6:10-11** together.

What could Andrew have done with the five loaves and two fishes? What was Jesus able to do?

To who, or to what, are you giving your money hoping you will get a miraculous return on your investment?
How has God supplied your needs when you've trusted him to bless what you gave?

Read Mark 14:3-9 for the story of another woman who gave what she had to Jesus despite the nay sayers and doubters. What was her reward?

After you have given **WATCH FOR WHAT HE SUPPLIES**. **Read John 6:12-14 together.**

The leftovers remind us that our God is a generous God. He takes what we give him and multiplies its effectiveness beyond our wildest expectations. What does being generous towards Him show about our faith?
How have you experienced this in your own life?

Jesus tells the people later in the passage He is the Bread of Life. Read his words in **John 6:30-35**. How has Jesus filled the emptiness in your life, leading you to a place in which you don't look elsewhere for satisfaction?

Where have you seen the overflow of Jesus love and generosity in your life recently? What words of encouragement do you have for those who are still waiting to see it?

Pray:

Pray that God would release your grip on the things of this world, especially your money and finances. Ask God to rescue you from the power it holds over you, allowing you to pursue Him with all that you have. Pray that God would do something spectacular in your life as you give, expecting Him to move on your behalf. Pray for a double portion of the faith it takes to put it in His hands.

Connect:

Listen to the song "Surrender" by Lincoln Brewster. As you meditate on the words ask God to work in your heart. Count all the world has to offer as loss for the sake of knowing Him fully and bringing glory to His name. As you do, you will experience everlasting joy!