Miracles - Feeding the Five Thousand

Main Idea: The question isn’t do we need miracles, the question is who and where are we turning to for them. The options are plenty, but there’s only one true miracle worker, Jesus. When you connect your life to Him and His endless power nothing is impossible. The problem comes when we try to do things on our own. We are facing problems that only Jesus can solve. The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand teaches us that miracles happen when we add Jesus to the equation. Anything + Jesus = more than enough.

Opening Discussion Question:

First, let’s explore the true definition of a miracle. Answer: An event that is explicable by nature or scientific laws and is considered to be the work of God. Has there ever been a time when you experienced a miracle? I.e. a changed life (the apostle Paul), other examples?

Read John 6:1-15

1. In this passage we see two ways to respond to a problem. Which one is most like you? What are the strengths and weaknesses to each approach?

2. Why do we often leave Jesus out of the equation? Why do we often try to do things on our own?

3. The boy in the miracle only brought 5 loaves and 2 small fish and Jesus turned it into a miracle. This wasn’t enough to solve the problem. What areas of your life do you feel you don’t have enough to solve your problems? Why do you feel like you can’t resolve those issues?

4. Pastor Justin pointed out that Jesus did not do this miracle all on his own. He used the little that was given to him (which was not enough) and turned it into more than enough. What stands out most to you about that?

5. How can we trust in God to work in the situations that seem too big for us to handle?
Next Steps: Miracles start when we include Jesus into the equation. Jesus wants to come into our lives and do what only He can do, a miracle. Take time to consider:

1. **What area of your life are you not inviting Jesus into the equation?** Pray and ask Jesus to come in and do a miracle in a specific and detailed way.

2. **Do some self-examination, maybe with an accountability partner or mentor, and determine why you leave Jesus out of the equation.** Pray and invite the Holy Spirit to lead you in practicing the discipline of allowing God in.

3. **What area of your life is coming up short? What situation in your life are you about to give up on? What area of your life do you feel like you just don’t have enough?** Remember Justin said that “miracles start with a mess”. Jesus wants to take our “not enough” and make it more than enough when we give it to him. Take that area of your life and give what little time/emotions/strength/resources you have to Jesus and pray for a miracle!

**Reading Plan**
- **Sunday** – John 6
- **Monday** – Acts 3
- **Tuesday** – Jeremiah 32
- **Wednesday** – Luke 18
- **Thursday** – Romans 15
- **Friday** – Job 5
- **Saturday** – Ephesians 3