

Bible People: Little Boy – Martin Bull – John 6:1-13 – 17/06/18

Introduction

New Series – amazing people in the Bible – learn from them – they are human, just like you and me.

God uses people in their weakness to display His strength. Gives me hope!

Crowd of 5000 men come to hear Jesus, plus women & children = 15,000 people.

- Equivalent of total University population! An amazing sight – such a large crowd

Philip – sees very practically but struggles to see with eyes of faith.

Andrew & little boy – glimmer of faith, maybe Jesus can do something with the small packed lunch.

Q. How will these resources ever be enough to sort out this issue?

Q. Have you thought that? How will yours/our resources ever be enough to reach everyone?

- **Turkey** – 5-8,000 Christians. Total population 81 million. How can that nation be reached?
- **UK** – 6.5 regularly attend church. Total population 65 million. How can our nation be reached?
- **URC Building** – How could we afford to buy / run a building like that?
- **Personal** – How can I ever be free?

1. Give what you DO have to Jesus – “Jesus took the loaves” (v11)

He gave what he had to Jesus.

Our first mistake is to hold back what we do have:

- “I can never see this nation saved so I won’t tell the person sat next me about Jesus.”
- “The church will never manage to buy the URC building so I won’t bother giving towards it.”
- “I’ll never be free of this life controlling issue so I won’t even try to start this new day in freedom.”

People need feeding and I have some food – I’ll give it to Jesus.

“Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” (Mark 10:15)

2. Give thanks (v11) – “Jesus gave thanks” (v11)

How we position ourselves before God makes a big difference to seeing His working through our lives.

Who did Jesus give thanks to? God the Father.

- He knew he was the Father’s son
- Positioning ourselves relationally helps us to do the impossible

○ Slaves live in fear	Sons live in thankfulness
○ Slaves expect hard work and little reward	Sons expect provision and plenty

Be thankful and remember who you are in God!

“See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” (1 John 3:1)

3. Give it away – DO something (v11) – “...distributed to those who were seated” (v11)

I want to imagine that this little boy was helping give the food away.

There was a point when one person had some food and 14,999 people didn’t.

- Q. Can you imagine how it felt to continue giving away, not knowing if there would be enough?

We need to live at the point where we give away what we have received – you’ve got to do something!

Conclusion

DO something! In the workplace, church life, community...

- Remember people who inspire you – step out and do something, like them

We can be significant:

- Take what we have, offer it to God, know we’re His children, give it away

For all of us – let’s live with childlike faith – Do something – see what Jesus does!