

“OF LOAVES AND FISH”

I AM SAVED!!! NOW WHAT?

- Awareness that one of the myriad of blessings of salvation is that we have become sons and daughters of God. (John 1:12-13, Ephesians 1:4-5)
- As members of the family of God, we are now involved in the family business. (Luke 2:49, John 4:34)
- What is the Father’s business?
 - To establish the Kingdom of God on earth.
- How is that done?
 - Reaching the lost.
 - Serving the body of Christ.

SERVING THE BODY OF CHRIST

- We first have to be convinced that Jesus is Lord, the CEO and CFO for the Father’s business, and that we have both a privilege and responsibility to serve.
- Each individual has a responsibility to serve the Body of Christ, because we belong to the Lord.
 - Romans 12:1-2, Romans 14:7-8, 1 Corinthians 6:15, 19-20, 2 Timothy 2:2-4, Luke 9:23-24

THE MIRACLE OF THE LOAVES AND FISH

- John 6:1-14
- Most Christians have difficulty in believing that they have anything of worth to give to God.
- The miracle of the loaves and fish demonstrates a very powerful spiritual principle of the Kingdom of God.
- This miracle shows us the:
 - Compassion of Jesus
 - Impossible task (to human eyes)
 - Inventory of resources (never equal to the task)
 - Bringing of what is available to Jesus with willing heart and humility
- Then Jesus:
 - Receives it
 - Blesses it with thanksgiving

- Multiplies it to meet the need
- The bringer always ends up with more than they gave (12 baskets)

WHAT ARE OUR LOAVES AND FISH?

- Time (no one knows the number of his days) (Parable of the Good Samaritan)
- Spiritual Gifts (which we must use in service to the Body of Christ.)
 - 1 Corinthians 12:1, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11, 1 Peter 4:8-12, Romans 12:4-8
- Serving the Body of Christ (including, but not only the local church)

HOW DO WE SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST?

- Parable of the Loaves and Fish (John 6:1-14)
 - Also found in: Luke 9:10-17, Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44
- Willing heart and Humility
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
- Bottom Line - Everyone has something to give to Jesus.

WHAT DOES GOD BRING TO THE DEAL IF WE GIVE OUR TIME AND GIFTING WILLINGLY?

- Partnership
 - 1 Corinthians 3:9, John 15:13-15
- Opportunity
 - Ministries
 - Divine appointments
- Grace (Power to do the assigned task/mission)
- Mercy/forgiveness when we blow it.

STEWARDSHIP OVER TIME AND GIFTS:

- Roman 14:10-12 (Judgment seat of Christ)
- 1 Cor. 3:11-15 (Hay, Wood and Stubble)
- Luke 12:24 (To whom much is given)
- Matt. 25:14-29 (Parable of the talents) Judged not by how much you have been given, but by what you did with what you had.

YOUR CHOICE:

- Well done good and faithful servant.
 - Received increased responsibility; enter into the joy of the master.
- Wicked, lazy, unprofitable servant.