

Dream Big for with God Nothing Is Impossible
The Feeding of the 5,000 with 5 Loaves and 2 Fish
 Luke 9:7-17

We will often think of God in terms of Him meeting individual needs – as the disciples went from village to village, healing the sick (v. 6) – and will marvel at God’s divine intervention in individual lives (vs. 7-9), but we often neglect to think in terms of God’s movement among *masses* of people. As we examine the miracle recorded more frequently and fully than any of our Lord’s other miracles, we must dream big.

I. Dream big, because nothing is impossible with God.

By *the mere exercise of his will*, he fed 5000 men with five pieces of bread and two small fish. This is not a fable or even a parable. This miracle was performed in public before thousands of people. The very same hand that sent quails in the wilderness, rained manna from heaven, and caused water to gush out of the rock here multiplied five small loaves and two small fish to feed 5000 hungry men.

(A). Christ is Sovereign over all. He *calls those things which be not as though they were* (Rom. 4:17).

With Christ our God nothing is impossible! When He wills something, it is done. When He commands a thing, it is performed. He creates light out of darkness. He makes order out of chaos. He brings strength out of weakness; sorrow into laughter. He brings food out of nothing.

(B). We are servants of the Sovereign. “Do not be afraid..., for the LORD will be with you (Josh. 1:9).

His power is unlimited. His grace is unconstrained. His arm is mighty. “*Can these bones live?*” – If God says “live” they can! Can that poor soul over there be saved? – If God saves him he can!

Can this rebel son be converted? – If God turns him he can! “Even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life” (John 17:2).

II. Dream big and *plan*, because God uses His people to accomplish His purposes.

God does not need us. He who fed this multitude could easily have done so without the use of his poor, weak, unbelieving disciples; but that was not his purpose. He said, “*Give them to eat*” (vs. 13). Then he put bread and fish in their hands and those emptied handed men fed five thousand souls! This entire event seems expressly arranged to give us a picture parable of the kingdom of God.

(A). The hungry multitude is pictures mankind. – There is a large company (city?) of empty souls who are starving for lack of bread, sheep without a shepherd, hungry and in need of sustenance.

(B). The Lord Jesus is a great, compassionate Savior. – Mark and Luke both tell us that our Lord *had compassion* when he saw the multitude before him. A gospel church has compassion on the lost.

(C). The disciples strategized and planned how to get the Bread to the hungry.

The people were divided into small groups (v. 14). The disciples continually “set before them bread” (v 16). They had to continually walk in trust that God would continue to provide.

Later the disciples gave testimony of Christ’s provision: “Jesus said, I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, and yet did you lack anything? They said, “*No, nothing.*” (Luke 22:35).

III. Dream big because God always satisfies the hungry by the Person of Christ.

When Christ gives, he always gives enough. There is enough in him for all and enough in him for each one. He replenishes every hungry soul, abundantly satisfies it with the *goodness of his house*. There were twelve baskets of fragments taken up, assuring us that in our Father’s house there is bread enough, and to spare. No hungry and empty person, when given Christ, ever goes away hungry.

“The hungry soul he satisfies with what is good” (Psalm 107:9)

“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies... My cup overflows.

Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life” (Ps. 23:5-6).