

Give It All To Jesus

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Of all the miracles Jesus performed, only one is recorded by all four Gospels. It happened on a lonely, desolate hillside near the Sea of Galilee where Jesus had gone to try to find solitude and rest. However, a crowd of five thousand men plus women and children discovered where he had gone and followed him.

Late in the day, the disciples urged Jesus to send the people away so they could buy food. Instead, Jesus told the disciples to feed them.

But the disciples had no food. Looking through the crowd, all they could find was a little boy who had five small loaves of bread about the size of hamburger buns and two small fish.

Jesus accepted all the little boy had, gave thanks to God, and immediately the five loaves and two fish multiplied until not only did everyone have enough to eat, but each of the twelve disciples filled a basket with what was left over.

There are two enormous lessons for us in this miracle. First of all, Jesus cannot do much for us if we do not give him the little that we have. Instead of moaning and groaning that we cannot do anything, we are to dedicate all that we have to God.

The key to success is not crying over what we do not have or cannot do, but in using all that we have and can do in a way that is pleasing to God.

Many people would eventually get out of debt if instead of giving up because they cannot pay off the whole loan they would start making the extra payments they could if they really wanted to.

Some persons could finish a high school or college degree if instead of moaning that it will take too long they would go ahead and get started on the courses they can do right now.

God does not ask for more than we have. The Bible says, *"If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have"* (2 Corinthians 8:12).

The second great lesson is this: Jesus gave thanks before the miracle happened. We tend to thank God for things that have already taken place. Giving thanks for something that has not yet happened is one of the greatest forms of faith. It is complete trust in God.

Our problem is that we often are willing to try to do only the things that we know we can do. If we only try to do the things that we know we can do, we really do not need God at all.

Broken relationships, deteriorating families, anger, depression, immoral living, bad habits, bitterness – all these things may be more than you can handle on your own. You need a miracle – something from God that you cannot do for yourself.

The disciples did not see a miracle until they let Jesus have all that they had. It is illogical to expect a miracle from God if we do not worship him and follow his Word. Perhaps your miracle will begin this weekend as you worship God again.