

Discussion Questions

Preparation

What is the most dangerous prayer in the Bible? If you aren't sure, here is one version of it: *"Whom shall I send and who will go for us?... 'Here I am! Send me!'"* Isaiah 6:8

Have you ever prayed a prayer like this? What did God tell you? What is God's purpose for your life? Why are you here? It's not to take up space. It's not simply to be a consumer of goods, nor to find yourself through self-discovery. God has a much deeper and fulfilling purpose for your life. If you don't know what it is yet, I dare you to ask Him. Prayer the most dangerous prayer in the Bible.

Passage

Sometime after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias),² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick.³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples.⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up,⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there).¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted."¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

1. Do you have a specific call on your life or a general call on your life? If you have a specific call to a particular profession, what is it?

Not everyone does have a specific call but we all have a general call to share and show the Gospel and seek the peace and prosperity of the community in which we live.

"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city...Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Jeremiah 29:7

John 6:1-15

So what are you currently doing to share and show Jesus to others and what are you doing to make Klamath Falls a better town to live in?

2. What did Jesus actually ask his disciples to do? Was it a realistic request or an unreasonable one? Based on this passage, what kind of requests does God make of us – do-able requests or impossible requests? Share a time God challenged you to do something that stretched you beyond what you thought you could do and you did it, with His help.
3. Have you ever experienced this in your life: Your need far outweighed your resources? There was more mouth than there was money? How has God provided for you over the years?
4. What does this story reveal about Jesus' identity? Why did people desert him? Read the rest of John 6, from verse 16 to the end.
5. Why are you part of the church? Are you following Jesus for the right reasons? Have you met believers/church attenders who are following Jesus or attending His church for the wrong reasons? What were those reasons?
6. So who does God use to serve Him and His purposes? Think through the passage and review who and what God used to feed between 15,000-20,000 people. Can God use you?
7. Read: *"Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are."* 1 Corinthians 1:26-27

Is this new to you? Do your personal inadequacies still keep you from volunteering for things you think are beyond your abilities, aptitude, or IQ? What would it take for you to set aside your feelings of inadequacy and say Yes to an opportunity to serve Him and His Church?

8. How does God work through us? What did the disciples have to do to be used by God? What did the boy have to do to be used by God? Apply both examples to your own life. What do you need to do right now to be used by God?
9. What were the results of the boy's willingness to make a sacrifice for the good of others? Have you experienced something similar when you did something sacrificial for the Lord?
10. Do you think the boy was the only person who had food to share or do you think when the disciples scoured the crowd asking people if they had any food to share that they stayed silent? Have you ever heard a request to serve and you did the same, you kept quiet, you kept your head down, you had it to give but didn't? How did you feel afterwards? What blessings did you miss out on because you kept silent or did not give when you could have?
11. Any further insights to share or questions you'd like to discuss?

21 Days of Prayer with Fasting: Dangerous Prayer

John 6:1-15

2/5/23

12. Close by sharing how the last 21 days went for you. What did you do? What was it like? What did you learn about yourself? Did you receive any direction for your life or for the church? Did you receive any encouragement from God? Any unexpected blessings? Is there anything you are going to continue to do after the 21 days is up? Is there anything you plan on not doing? Please consider letting Pastor Richard know about your experience and your responses to these questions and pray about sharing them with the congregation some time.