



SUNDAY JANUARY 22ND, 2023

DARING FAITH PART 3:
PREPARING FOR A MIRACLE

Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. ³⁵ Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat." ³⁷ But Jesus said, "You feed them." "With what?" they asked. "We'd have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!" ³⁸ "How much bread do you have?" he asked. "Go and find out." They came back and reported, "We have five loaves of bread and two fish."

³⁹ Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred. ⁴¹ Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. ⁴² They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. ⁴⁴ A total of 5,000 men and their families were fed.

~ Mark 6:34-44 (ESV)

DARING FAITH PART 3: PREPARING FOR A MIRACLE

Miracle = an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs

FOUR STEPS TO PREPARE FOR A MIRACLE:

1. ADMIT I HAVE A NEED

“This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat.” ~ Mark 6:35-36 (NLT)

Three Things We Usually Do When We Have A Problem

- We procrastinate
- We pass the buck
- We worry

Principle #1: God won't help you until you admit you need help

2. ASSESS WHAT I HAVE TO WORK WITH

How much bread do you have?” he asked. “Go and find out.” They came back and reported, “We have five loaves of bread and two fish.” ~ (Mark 6:38)

Principle #2: God always starts with what I have when He wants to work a miracle.

³⁷ But Jesus said, “You feed them.” ~ Mark 6:37 (NLT)

⁶ But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. ~ John 6:6 (NLT)

3. I GIVE GOD WHAT LITTLE I HAVE

Then Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up. ⁹ “There’s a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?”

~ John 6:8-9 (NLT)

Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share.

~ Mark 6:41 (NLT)

Principle #3: God will use whatever I give Him.

4. EXPECT GOD TO MULTIPLY IT

*They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ and afterward, the disciples **picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish.** ~ Mark 6:42 (NLT)*

Principle #4: Whenever I give, I always get more back.

PURPOSES OF DARING FAITH

- To become more like Jesus
- To stretch your faith
- To teach you Christlike generosity

Memory Verse

⁷ Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. ~ 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NLT)

What Can I Expect During This Time Campaign?

1. You can expect to see **miracles**
2. You can expect to grow **spiritually**
3. You can expect to be **harassed by Satan**
4. You can expect to **experience joy**

Next Steps:

- Memorize 2 Corinthians 8:7
- Become a follower of Jesus
- Sign up for a connect group
- Participate in the 40 days of prayer