

## A Little is a Lot When You Put it in Jesus' Hands (John 6:5-15)

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**Guidelines:** Protect confidentiality and follow the leader's prompts

### **Lectio Divina Rhythms/Process (Repeat three times):**

- (a) Read the Scripture passage ("Lectio")
- (b) Reflect on the focus question below ("Meditatio")
- (c) Respond in quiet prayer/journaling ("Oratio")
- (d) Rest in God's invitation for you then pray/share out loud if you want ("Contemplatio")

**Introduction:** In John 5 Jesus explains his oneness with God the Father and says that the way to have life, God's abundant and eternal life, is through him. In John 6 he shows us how. He multiplies a few loaves and fishes to feed over 5,000! Jesus could've created the food out of thin air, but he chose to start with a little boy's lunch. The spiritual life is a partnership: we give to God what little we have and then we trust him to multiply it and do something great!

**Opening Prayer:** "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed... Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20).

### **Read Scripture: John 6 (NIV84)**

<sup>5</sup>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?" <sup>6</sup>He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

<sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

<sup>8</sup>Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, <sup>9</sup>"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

<sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. <sup>11</sup>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.

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

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you? Meditate on that.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Enter into the Scripture passage. What do you feel? What specific situation in your life today relates? Write down a prayer or pray quietly.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading:** What is God's personal invitation for you from the Scripture? You can write down what God may be saying to you or a prayer of thanks. Or rest quietly in God.