

**M.I.P.**

Surrender all that you have, or don't have, to Jesus  
Trust & Obey Him  
& He will be more than Sufficient, for your Situation

**Let's Pray**

---

**John 6:1 (NLT)**

***1 After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias.***

I need to take a min to "Fill In" what John means by "**After this**"

**MARK gives us an account of these things in Mk Ch 6**

Let's **TURN** over There - & get the "Back-Story"

**In Mark 6:7** - the disciples are **sent out** -  
on their **FIRST** "**Ministry Tour**"

& they were sent out – **ON THEIR OWN** -  
***while they were still "in training"***

---

& Jesus **DID NOT** make it **EASY** for the Disciples -  
In fact – he made it **DIFFICULT**

When Jesus sent these “Disciples in Training”  
out on their first Mission

**We read in –Mark 6:8 (NLT)**

***8 He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler’s bag, no money.***

***9 He allowed them to wear sandals (nice of him) but not to take a change of clothes. (rough)***

& it’s safe to say –  
the Disciple were probably **FREAKING OUT**

But they went – They **DID** it  
Diving into the Deep End – **WITH NO FLOATIES**

---

& I **LOVE** to be able to say -  
we **HAVE DONE**, & we **ARE DOING**

Basically the Same thing **HERE** at this church  
that we see Jesus doing in our Text today

---

We have just finished one of **THE BEST**  
**VBS** weeks we have ever had

& we actually followed **THIS EXAMPLE** of Jesus

We put our “Leadership in Training”  
in the **DEEP END** – With **NO FLOATIES**

They did have **ONE** Seasoned Leader covering for them  
(behind the scenes)

**BUT** – **ALL They had** - (to their knowledge)  
were some Basic Instructions – **AND JESUS**

---

& - They did **GREAT** -  
& their Minstry team (of 60 people) did **GREAT**

& when it was all over –  
They were **TIRED**, & They were **WORN OUT**

But they learned that they could **SWIM** in the Deep End  
with **ONLY** Jesus holding them up

---

### **So Then – In MARK Ch 6**

the disciples **return** - from their **FIRST Ministry Mission**

& we get an **idea** of what **ministry was like** for them in

### **Mark 6:30–31 (NLT)**

***30 The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught.***

***31 Then Jesus said, “Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.” He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn’t even have time to eat.***

The disciples were **exhausted**, & the ministry was still **so busy**  
they **didn’t** even have time to **eat**

& **THAT** – is **EXACTLY** how  
our Leaders in Training – **FEEL TODAY**

**& so we read – in Mark 6:32 (NLT)**

*32 So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone.*

**OR . . .** So they **THOUGHT**

---

**BUT . . . Mark 6:33 (NLT)**

*33 But many people recognized them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them.*

& then - **notice the heart** of Jesus in **Mk 6:34**

**Mark 6:34 (NLT)**

*34 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.*

**WAIT – WHAT??**

Another **CROWD** – **MORE** Ministry ???

This was a **SHOCK** to the Disciples -

But it was **NO SHOCK** to Jesus

Jesus knew **EXACTLY** what was going to happen

& Jesus knew **EXTACLY**

how he was going to use it – for the Disciples **GOOD**

**& this passage in MARK is the SAME EVENT**  
we are reading about in **John Ch 6**

---

**& so – we cont back in - John 6:2–3 (NLT)**

***2 A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick.***

***3 Then Jesus climbed a hill and sat down with his disciples around him.***

**we know from Gospel of Mark - Jesus & the disciples  
ministered to these people all day**

**& when the crowd had grown to 5000 men  
(not incldg women & children) –**

the **stage was set** for Jesus to teach a **great lesson**  
About the Disciples - **LACK**  
& about **His SUFFICIENCY**

---

**It starts in vs's 5-6**

This was **supposed to be** the disciple's "**day-off**"  
**BUT - instead they had ministered** all day,

& now – to **cap it off** -  
Jesus **throws them** into an overwhelming **situation**

**John 6:5–6 (NLT)**

***5 Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all***

**these people?”**

**6 He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.**

**The FIRST thing Jesus was going to do**

was teach the Disciples – (& US)

**Jesus is More Than Sufficient for Your Situation**

---

My Second **FAVORITE “DAVE ISM’S”**- Is

***“God isn’t as interested in making our circumstances right – as He is in using our circumstances to make us right”***

**God wants to use the circumstance**

that YOU are in right now

to mold you - & shape you

to increase your faith

& to reveal His power & His sufficiency – to you

**that’s exactly what he’s going to do for His disciples**

---

& So . . . Jesus hands the situation - TO THE DISCIPLES

(again) - in **John 6:5** Jesus asks Philip

**“Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?”**

By asking Philip

**“Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?”**

**& maybe you can see yourself**

in Phillip's **response**

**John 6:7 (NLT)**

***7 Philip replied, “Even if we worked for months, we wouldn’t have enough money to feed them!”***

Phillip's **mind** went right into **action** -

He **THOUGHT** he had all the facts . . .

**OK** - Let me **think** - we've got about **5,000** men  
(not incldg women & children)

& **if we get so many** pieces out of each **loaf** . . .

then we'll need **so many loaves** – at so much cost **per loaf**

**“Man Jesus, this is impossible –**

**“Even if we worked for months, we wouldn’t have enough money to feed them!”**

**you can almost hear Jesus saying “NO KIDDING”**

You can - **count the facts**

You can - **double-check the list**

You can - **look at your lack**

You can say - **“It can’t be done”**

But Jesus is inviting us -

To see **PAST** what **WE SEE** - and **TRUST HIM**

Jesus is about to teach by example

what he will later say in **Matthew 19:26**

## **In Matthew 19:26 – Jesus says (NLT)**

***“With man this is impossible, but with God everything is possible.”***

**& THAT** is what Jesus is **teaching** the disciples **here**

**Faith** is the evidence of things **unseen**

& we need **CIRCUMSTANCES** to **exercise our faith**,

**for every believer** there comes a **time**,

when **God puts you** in a **situation**

where the answer **cannot be seen**, or **figured out**

**& that situation** is **exactly** where God **wants you**

### **Remember**

***“God isn’t as interested in making our circumstances right –  
as He is in using our circumstances to make us right”***

---

So – **the disciples are scrambling** to see who can **“figure out”**  
**what to do** - & next - **Andrew** takes a shot

## **John 6:8–9 (NLT)**

***8 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?”***

**Remember – these guys** are

totally **wrung out** - physically & emotionally,

they've **just returned** from a difficult **ministry mission** -  
they were **trying** to get away for **some rest**

& **now** Jesus throws them into a **very difficult** situation

**So Andrew halfheartedly** notices  
the only **minutely relevant** fact

***“well this boy has 5 loaves & 2 fish -  
but that’s obviously worthless”***

---

**Maybe – instead of** the **analytical** personality of Phillip

maybe **you see** yourself here **in Andrew**

**I call this the Eore syndrome**

***“well sure – we’ve got that . . . but what good is that”***

***“that won’t do any good . . . I guess we’re just doomed”***

---

**There was a king** in the O.T. that had the **Eore syndrome** – - **Saul**

One day his **army met** up with a giant named **Goliath**

& Saul **responded** the **same** way Andrew did here –

**Saul said basically - “all we have is the Army Of The Lord –**

***& they have a Big Fat Giant – we are most certainly doomed”***

**that’s the same thing** Andrew was **saying** –

***“all we have is 5 loaves, 2 Fish, & JESUS***

***“obviously that’s not enough to overcome the situation”***

**Have you ever caught** yourself in the **Eore syndrome** –

saying **“all I have is this little bit AND Jesus with me –  
certainly that’s not enough to overcome this obstacle”**

**BUT - There was a young** boy in the **Goliath story**  
who **had five** of something – he had **5 smooth stones** - - - **David**

**David BELIEVED something**  
the rest of the army **did not** Truly Believe

**In 1 Samuel 17:45-47 (NLT)**

***45 David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel . . . This is the LORD’s battle, and he will give you to us!”***

**it was David’s faith** in God’s **sufficiency**

that **caused** him to **respond** to Goliath  
in a **different way** than Saul (& his army) did

**Saul said**

**“all I have is** The Lord of Heaven’s Armies – surly it’s **not enough**”

**David said;** **“all I need is - The Lord of Heaven’s Armies”**

---

---

**Based on man's logic**

the disciples had **run out of hope** - & ideas

**BUT - Based on God's sufficiency**

The Disciples had **ALL THEY NEEDED**

---

**Do you think** the disciples **believed**

**The O.T.** writings about **God's Sufficiency?**

**Do you think** they **remembered** the **Water into wine** incident?

Or the **many, many other miracles** they had witnessed?

**I'm sure they believed** – just like **we believe**

**we believe** – **BUT** at the **same time** – We **SAY**

**"this situation is too difficult – there's no way to overcome it"**

**"I know I have 5 loaves & Jesus Christ**

**but have you seen the size of this problem?"**

I'm going to **NEED SOME REAL HELP HERE**

**You can't expect** me to go thru this

**with just** this little I have - **AND JESUS**

---

**Sometimes all we need** to do is **hear ourselves** talk –

to **realize** just how much we're **trusting in the flesh** -

**instead** of in the **all-sufficient power** of Jesus Christ

---

**So in His mercy & grace**

**Jesus** Christ will **continue** using your **circumstances**  
to **draw you** into a **deeper** relationship of **faith**

**Which is exactly** what He's **doing** for the **disciples** here

---

**& Here comes the CRITICAL MOMENT**

**Jesus** is going to **require** - an **ACT OF OBEDIENCE**

**BEFORE** He **reveals** to the Disciples

**HOW** He's going to **provide** for their situation

**& when We are in a similar situation**

Jesus **will always require** an **act of obedience** from **US**

**before** He **reveals to us**

how He is going to **provide** for our situation

---

**Here it is - John 6:10 (NLT)**

***10 "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.)***

**This is "faith in action"** on the disciples part

**They obeyed Jesus**

& got over **5,000 people** to sit down in groups

(**MARK** tells us they sat down in groups of **50 & 100**)

**& - AS they we're doing** this, they had absolutely **no idea**  
**what** Jesus **planned** to do

& that's exactly **the point**

**Jesus will always** ask you to **act in faith**  
**prior** to Him **providing** for your need

---

### **Faith IS - Belief & Trust - in action**

& Jesus will always **give us** an **opportunity**  
to put our **faith** - into **action**

**& THEN comes the supernatural sufficiency**  
of Jesus **meeting our needs**

### **John 6:11 (NLT)**

***11 Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted.***

<p><b><u>Jesus supplied all</u></b> they needed <b><u>by using</u></b> what <b><u>little</u></b> they had</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

& He did it **to show us**

That our **seemingly insurmountable situation**  
is **NO MATCH** - for the **sufficiency** of Jesus Christ

---

**Let me ask you a critical question**

Did Jesus **need** the **loaves & fishes** the boy had -  
in order **to provide** for all these people? (**NO**)

**Then why did He require** the boy's loaves & fish?

Because it is a **beautiful picture** – of **surrender**

**Whatever you have** – **Little or Much**

Will you surrender it all to Jesus –  
for Him **to use it** to overcome your **situation**?

**Maybe all you have** is fear & **uncertainty**

**Jesus says**; “surrender it to me, & watch what I’ll do with it”

**Maybe all you have** is a **cry** from your **heart**  
that you **can’t** even put into **words** –

**Jesus says**; “surrender it to me, & watch what I’ll do with it”

**Jesus asks you** to **surrender to Him**  
whatever it is **you have**  
whatever it is you’re **holding onto**

**SO THAT** you can **see**  
that He is “**More than Sufficient for your Situation**”

---

**& in v.12** – we see a **beautiful lesson** of what **Jesus** will **do** –  
with **whatever** we fully **surrender** to Him

## **John 6:12-13 (NLT)**

***12 After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, “Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted.”***

***13 So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.***

**The disciples thought the 5 loaves were meaningless –  
but when they were put in Jesus’ hands**

**He not only used them  
to provide all that the people needed**

But He **gathered up** all the **fragments**  
so that nothing was **lost**

& the **PROVISION** that came from Jesus

Was **FAR MORE than Sufficient for Their Situation**

---

---

**What do you have** to give to Jesus  
that maybe you think - is **meaningless**?

**surrender it to Him**  
no matter **how small** you think it is

**& He will** not only use it to **provide** for your situation

But you will see that **HIS PROVISION**  
**Is FAR MORE than Sufficient for Your Situation**

---

---

**Jesus Christ is able to use**

whatever we have - that we will **SURRENDER** to Him

**no matter how small** - no matter how **insignificant** –

**& Jesus** will **multiply** whatever we **give** Him in **faith** -

& He will **use it** to **Provide** all that we need

**HERE** is **ALL** we need to do

---

1) **Believe** that Jesus Christ is “**More than Sufficient** for your Situation”

2) **Surrender** whatever you have **to Him**  
no matter how **SMALL** – or How **GREAT** it is

3) **Obey Him** – In complete **FAITH & TRUST**

**& you will SEE & EXPERIENCE this truth**

**Jesus is more than sufficient for your situation**

**LET'S PRAY**