



**Home Teams**  
DISCUSSION GUIDE

# RESTORE

CONTINUING THE UNFINISHED JOURNEY

# GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

**WEEK 2:** From Consumer to Contributor

## 📌 Big Idea

God can do more than we imagine when we place our resources in His hands!

▶ **Watch Week 2 Video** (on DVD or at [pathwaychurch.com/messages/restore](http://pathwaychurch.com/messages/restore))

📄 **Read, Discuss, and Journal Answers**

## OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had someone else “volunteer” you for something? How did it work out?

2. We’ve all heard the saying “it’s the thought that counts” (especially when we’re feeling a little unsettled about the gift or trying to be polite). Have you ever received a small gift that has become very special to you? Describe something that you treasure more than its simple economic value.

3. When you think of God’s blessings in your life, do you feel you have ‘received’ more from God than you could ever possibly give back to Him? Share specifics from your life and how this affects how you give and serve for God.

# READ

## JOHN 6:5-13 NIV

<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, "It would take more than half a year's wages to 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 they sat down (about five thousand men were there). <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.

## JOHN 6:26-29 NIV

<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for Me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on Him God the Father has placed His seal of approval."

<sup>28</sup> Then they asked Him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent."

## IN THE WORD

1. What information does John's account give us about who the boy is or why he's here? Why do you think Jesus didn't have them do a more thorough search for food?
2. Following the "miracle meal," Jesus had a lengthy confrontation in verses 25-29. Notice verse 24 and 25. Who argued with Him: teachers or common people? What were they trying to persuade Him to do?
3. Given their desire to forcibly make Him king (and provide free food thus eliminating those shopping trips to the grocery store), what do you think would have happened if He had not asked His disciples to gather the extra pieces, and let nothing be wasted? Why do you think Jesus instructs them this way?

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. How do you think you'd feel if you had been that young person and Jesus used something you possessed to produce such a stunning miracle?
2. In John 6:26-27, Jesus accuses them of pursuing and following

Him because of what He can do for them rather than a desire for His presence. Have you ever confronted a similar attitude within your heart toward God? Have you ever become angry with God when your life was more difficult than you thought was fair?

3. If you could choose, what do you possess that you'd like God to multiply so that others would stand in amazement at God's power?

4. Has God ever surprised you by using and/or blessing your effort, time, or generosity more than you expected? Can you recall a time when you gave what you had and it provided a greater impact or blessing than you thought it might?

5. Which of these are you most challenged by: the amount you give to God, the attitude with which you give, or the expectancy that He will use it in a powerful way?

## **PRAY**

*Pray for each person in your Home Team as they consider their role as a contributor in God's kingdom.*

Some may be on our *Unfinished* journey as a church and others may not; however, we are ALL called to be contributors in many ways for the Kingdom of God. Pray that people would discover their next steps in this area during this important season in the life of our church.

## **CONTINUED LEARNING**

*(self-study throughout the week)*

1. Consider 2 Corinthians 8:12. When it comes to the amount of the resources we put in God's hands, how does amount compare to attitude? Is this true for other areas besides money?

2. Look up the following passages and consider if they provide additional understanding on Jesus' instructions about the leftover bread and fish.

- Exodus 16:17-20: no leftovers of daily manna
- Exodus 29:34: no leftovers of Jewish priest's food
- Exodus 34:25: no Passover Feast leftovers
- Leviticus 7:15: no leftovers of the Fellowship Offerings to God
- Leviticus 22:29-30: no leftovers of Thank Offerings to God

What influence might these commands have had upon the disciples of Jesus in John 6?