

"Little is Much... with Jesus!" - John 6:7-14 (Pt.1)

NKJV- *"After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberius. Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near.*

Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"

Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

- I. The Principle of **VISION**. (v.7-9)
- II. The Principle of **MULTIPLICATION**. (v.10-11)
- III. The Principle of **IDENTIFICATION**. (v.12-14)

I. The Principle of **EVALUATION**. (v.1-6) - *"After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberius. Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these*

may eat?" But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do."

- We already covered this weeks ago, how the Lord uses different tools to test and grow our faith in Jesus: *Difficulty, Demands, Dollars, and Delays*

II. The Principle of **VISION**. (v.7-9) - *"Philip answered Him, Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"*

- According to **W.H.O.**(World Health Organization) **285 million** people are estimated to be visually impaired worldwide: **246 million** of these have low vision, and **39 million** are completely blind.
- Between the ages of 18 and 64, **15.3 million** American adults report experiencing significant vision loss.
- Major causes of vision loss are **Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, cataracts and refractive error.**
- *A professional carpet layer had just finished installing a carpet for a certain lady. He stepped out for his short lunch break, only to realize he'd lost his favorite snack - a little red Fuji apple. Later he discovered in the middle of the room, a small lump under the carpet. "No sense pulling up the entire floor for one little apple," he said to himself. He proceeded to get out his hammer and flattened the lump. As he was cleaning up, the owner of the house came in. "Here," she said, handing him his apple. "I found it out in the hallway. You haven't seen our pet hamster have you? He's escaped from his cage." **The Lesson: BAD VISION can be very dangerous!***
- Sometimes, **BAD VISION** comes from something very minor:
- Less than **1 glass of H2O**, can produce **FOG** that is **100 feet thick** and cover **7 city blocks!**
- **This is often a HUGE problem for Christians today: BAD SPIRITUAL VISION!**
 - **#1 Problem** - Bad spiritual vision **of GOD and HIS POWER in our lives!**
 - *"What comes into your mind when you think about GOD, is the most important thing about you!" - AW Tozer*

○ #2 Problem -Bad spiritual

vision of **OURSELVES** the **CHALLENGES** we face daily!

- *The next time you go to the circus with your family, before you go inside, take a peak at the elephants out back. One of the things that you'll notice, is that most of the time these huge beasts are being held hostage by a little chain around one of their ankles, connected to a post that in the ground. But how is it possible that such a little chain, connected to such a little post, could hold such an enormous powerful animal hostage? Very simple: He doesn't see himself as he truly is! From the moment they are born, these elephants were trained that when they felt the chain around their neck, they were helpless and had to submit. They never had an opportunity to understand their true identity. These animals can never survive out in the world, because from their earliest days, their **REAL IDENTITY** was ripped from them, and they can't see the true power inside of them!*

- *A good Bible Teacher is basically a "Spiritual Ophthalmologist". An Ophthalmologist is a medical doctor (MD) or an osteopathic doctor (DO) who specializes in eye and vision care. Ophthalmologists are trained to perform eye exams, diagnose and treat disease, prescribe medications and perform eye surgery. They also write prescriptions for eyeglasses and contact lenses.*

• Here in John 6, Philip saw this situation from the **wrong** spiritual perspective. He didn't look at this situation from a perspective of faith and confidence in the Lord. Rather, he chose to look at this problem/challenge based upon his limited Human Resources. Philip and the other disciples, chose to In the same way, our spiritual **VISION** on a given challenge in our life, can often determine our success or failure in it:

- *10 spies looking at the **GIANTS** of Canaan.*

- **Num 13:27–33**NLT - "This was their report to Moses: "We entered the land you sent us to explore, and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey. Here is the kind of fruit it produces. 28 But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak! 29 The Amalekites live in the Negev, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country. The Canaanites live along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and along the Jordan Valley." 30 **But Caleb**

tried to quiet the people as they stood before Moses. “Let’s go at once to take the land,” he said. “We can certainly conquer it!” 31 But the other men who had explored the land with him disagreed. “We can’t go up against them! They are stronger than we are!” 32 So they spread this bad report about the land among the Israelites: ...Next to them we felt like grasshoppers, and that’s what they thought, too!”

▪ **Numbers 14:9 NLT** - *“Do not rebel against the Lord, and don’t be afraid of the people of the land. They are only helpless prey to us! They have no protection, but the Lord is with us! Don’t be afraid of them!”*

○ *Peter looking at the **STORM** on Galilee sea.*

▪ **Matthew 14:25–31 NLT** - *“Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, “It’s a ghost!” 27 But Jesus spoke to them at once. “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “Take courage. I am here!” 28 Then Peter called to him, “Lord, if it’s really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water.” 29 “Yes, come,” Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. “Save me, Lord!” he shouted. 31 Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. “You have so little faith,” Jesus said. “Why did you doubt me?”*

○ *David looking at **GOLIATH** the Philistine.*

▪ **1 Samuel 17:3–11 NLT** - *“So the Philistines and Israelites faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them. 4 Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over nine feet tall! 5 He wore a bronze helmet, and his bronze coat of mail weighed 125 pounds. 6 He also wore bronze leg armor, and he carried a bronze javelin on his shoulder. 7 The shaft of his spear was as heavy and thick as a weaver’s beam, tipped with an iron spearhead that weighed 15 pounds. His armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a shield. 8 Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. “Why are you all coming out to fight?” he called. “I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. Choose one man to come down here and fight me! 9 If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! 10 I*

defy the armies of Israel today! Send me a man who will fight me!" 11 When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were terrified and deeply shaken. (This went on for 40 days!)

○ 1 Samuel 17:26, 32 NLT- *"David asked the soldiers standing nearby, "What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his defiance of Israel? Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?... Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!"*

○ 1 Samuel 17:45–47 NLT- *"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, whom you have defied. 46 Today the Lord will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel! 47 And everyone assembled here will know that the Lord rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the Lord's battle, and he will give you to us!"*

III. The Principle of **MULTIPLICATION**. (v.10-11) - *"Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted."*

• Whatever you offer to Jesus, He can *take it*, *bless it*, and *multiply it*! He can take whatever you offer to Him and do great and mighty things with it, for His Kingdom!

- Judges 3
- Judges 6
- 1 Samuel 16
- Exodus 3
 - Treasures - Luke 6:38
 - Understanding - Mark 4:24-25
 - Judgement - Matt 7:1-2

IV. The Principle of **IDENTIFICATION**. (v.12-14) - *"So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." Therefore they*

gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

- The people finally understood the true identity of Jesus: *the Divine Messiah sent to save the world!*
 - John 20:31
 - John 5:31-47
 - John 5:17-23
 - John 4
 - John 3
 - John 2
 - John 1