



Mke a Difference | Jordan Hansen

John 6:5-13

Home = person → Our mission is to lead people into a GROWING relationship w/Jesus. → Mesa: Table & Flat Top Mountain

How do we do that...we set the table for people to: [Come to the Monthly MIXER to hear our heart...]
KNOW GOD → FIND FREEDOM → DISCOVER PURPOSE → MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A shopkeeper was dismayed when a brand new business much like his own opened up next door and erected a huge sign which read 'BEST QUALITY'. He was horrified when another competitor opened up next door on his right, and announced its arrival with an even larger sign, reading 'LOWEST PRICES'. The shopkeeper panicked, until he got an idea.... → Harper

→ **Where are you stuck between a “rock and a hard place?”** → Financial. Health. Education. Relational. → Jn. 6:5-13

→ We all desire to make a difference in this world, but often times we feel stuck “between a rock and a hard place.” Life is full of challenges that test our resolve, creativity, & faith. God leverages life’s greatest problems to grow US. In the only miracle recorded in all four Gospels, God reveals He is not limited by our limitations. He takes the “little things” we offer and He exponentially multiplies it into a nourishing and life giving experience for all. Only God can do that!

5-6: 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.

God leverages life’s challenges to test us. → We’ll never change the world until we change your mindset/vocabulary.

- The crowds followed Jesus because they had never seen anything like him. He was healing, delivering people from spiritual oppression, and TEACHING. His teaching was setting people free from the trap of Godless religion. And Jesus ALREADY knows what He is going to do concerning the lack of food in this desolate place. This story is a reminder of past Biblical accounts where God’s people found themselves WITHOUT FOOD.
 - Pay attention to the persistent questions that God embeds in your heart. → His questions brings clarity to our callings.
 - Org. Partners: K-Wave, Visioneering, Cass Bank, & Generis, QoHeleth, RFKC, Love Irvine = LIFE’S CHALLENGES
 - Mesa = There is always Room at the Table. = Jan/Tanya → We changed our name before we knew...
 - WE need testing? → UNKAMEN → Prayer: Lord, lead us to YOUR way. → VISION: Next 3 Sundays / Serve Day
- God uses life’s challenges to test us...to grow us...to partner with us to bring solutions where none exists.

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

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?”*

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

It is the little things that set the Table for God. → Which mindset do we have this morning?

- **Philip the REALIST** = “We don’t have enough money.” → Me!
- **Andrew the QUESTIONER** = “We don’t have enough resources.” → Me!
- **The boy** who BROUGHT his lunch. = “I have a lunch.” → Generosity Initiative: Bring your loaves & fishes...
- **The disciples who DISTRIBUTED / GATHERED** = The witnesses... → The Socio Economic Impact of Religion
- We get weary... → Elgin Staples → **The Lunch Packer** → I show up week after week... PARENTS?!
- **[Jesus:** Feeds the hungry people. Miracle worker. Way-Maker. → MANNA → “I am the Bread of Life.” - Jn. 6:35]
- “My son my son NOTE = we bring the little things to set the Table for God to do the BIG things....

• VISION: We will set the Table for God. DT, SG, Neighborhood, Workplace...community!
→Every challenge is an opportunity for faith-building & when we bring God what we have, He makes the miracle happen!

→If you want to make a difference...START WITH THE LITTLE THINGS!→PRAYER: Father help each of us to reflect on the persistent questions you keep asking, to be faithful with what you have given me, & to trust you with my efforts. Jesus, you are the way maker, the miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness!

TALK ABOUT IT - Questions to GROW through with family, friends, & myself.

1. Have I ever been in an impossible situation? What did I learn about God? Myself?
2. How do I reflect on the persistent questions God has embedded in my heart?
3. Which character in this story do I relate to the most and why? What step forward can I take to grow?
4. What are some of the "little things" that I have to offer my community in our current state of affairs?
5. **PRAYER:** "Father, help me to be faithful with what you have given me and to trust you for the outcome!"

LINKS / RESOURCES:

- **The Socio-Economic Contributions of Religion to American Society: An Empirical Analysis:** <https://religiousfreedomandbusiness.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/1.2-trillion-US-Religious-Economy-2-page-summary.pdf>
- **The Socio-economic Contribution of Religion to American Society: An Empirical Analysis, Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion, Volume 12, 2016, Article 3:** <http://www.religjournal.com/pdf/ijrr12003.pdf>

QUOTES / SONGS:

A shopkeeper was dismayed when a brand new business much like his own opened up next door and erected a huge sign which read 'BEST QUALITY'.

He was horrified when another competitor opened up next door on his right, and announced its arrival with an even larger sign, reading 'LOWEST PRICES'.

The shopkeeper panicked, until he got an idea. He put the biggest sign of all over his own shop. It read 'MAIN ENTRANCE'. - Joke

"We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience." - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

"Religion in the United States today contributes \$1.2 trillion each year to our economy and society. These contributions range from the basic economic drivers of any business—staff, overhead, utilities—to billions spent on philanthropic programs, educational institutions and health care services. Congregations, businesses inspired by faith, faith-based charities and institutions not only build communities and families but also strengthen our economy in every town and city of the country." - The Socio-Economic Contributions of Religion to American Society: An Empirical Analysis

"The data are clear. Religion is a highly significant sector of the American economy. Religion provides purpose-driven institutional and economic contributions to health, education, social cohesion, social services, media, food and business itself. Perhaps most significantly, religion helps set Americans free to do good by harnessing the power of millions of volunteers from nearly 345,000 diverse congregations present in every corner of the country's urban and rural landscape." - The Socio-Economic Contributions of Religion to American Society: An Empirical Analysis

Spoken Word by Jesus Moore - "Everything God the Father does and makes, is significant and purposeful. And when we follow his lead, we'll experience things and places we would have never experienced using our own intelligence and planning."

"His Way is Good For You"

*Cause something happens
When the pieces click
Discovered that what you were lacking
Wouldn't have even fit
But it promoted actions
To see what didn't exist
A new hope and passion
that's superseded ya wits
It's so intense
That fresh is prince
This heart is king*

And it represents
Royalty that's heaven sent
No decadence
This present gift
A precious fit
Unprecedented
This quest is different
It's evidence lived
Never intended
To hold you down
Instead be lifted
Remove ya limits
Within an instant
Your soul is sound
Cause hope is found
Our roads like rounds
We ain't going down
A fight of faith that's so profound
Go this route not for a crown
Smile these in and outs
will breed belief
to release your inner child

SCRIPTURES: New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.

2 Corinthians 5:17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

John 6:35

29 Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent."

30 They answered, "Show us a miraculous sign if you want us to believe in you. What can you do? 31 After all, our ancestors ate manna while they journeyed through the wilderness! The Scriptures say, 'Moses gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

32 Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, Moses didn't give you bread from heaven. My Father did. And now he offers you the true bread from heaven. 33 The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

34 "Sir," they said, "give us that bread every day."

35 Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. 36 But you haven't believed in me even though you have seen me. 37 However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. 38 For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. 39 And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. 40 For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

41 Then the people began to murmur in disagreement because he had said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph? We know his father and mother. How can he say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

MESA VISION LINKS:

- Who is Mesa? Click: [ID.Mission.Vision](#)
- What is the vision of Mesa Church? Click: [Vision Sermons / Messages](#)
- Is there anything I can watch to be inspired? Click: [Grow Conference Main Sessions](#)

NEXTS STEPS:

- [Fill Out an Online Connect Card](#)
- [Join a Small Group](#)
- [Get Water Baptized](#)
- [Become a Partner of Mesa Church](#)
- [Join a Dream Team to Serve on Sundays](#)
- [Give to what God is doing](#)
- [Submit a Prayer Request](#)

- [Learn More About Fasting](#)
- [Share a testimony or story of God working in my life.](#)

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- GOOGLE PLAY: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.subsplashconsulting.s_K2XMCR&referrer=utm_source%3Dsubsplash%26utm_content%3DeyJ0YW5kbGVyIjojYXBwliwiYXBwa2V5IjojSzJYTUNSIj0=