Summary

This sermon is part of a series titled 'What Are You Bringing to the Table?' drawing from John 6:1-14, the miracle of Jesus feeding the 5,000. The pastor emphasizes that every believer has something to offer God, whether it is their following, their funds, their faith, or even their praise in the midst of hardship. Just as Jesus took five barley loaves and two small fishes, blessed them, broke them, and multiplied them to feed thousands with twelve baskets left over, God takes whatever we surrender to Him and multiplies it far beyond what we could imagine. The sermon also carries a strong call to remember the goodness of God and to not forget the Savior who saved us. The pastor warns against spiritual forgetfulness, urging believers to remain in daily fellowship with Christ, to be His hands and feet in the community, and to compel others to come into the house of God. The closing story of a soldier who called Jesus His 'forgotten Son' serves as a powerful reminder that no matter how far we have drifted, God's grace is always ready to receive us back when we return to Him.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today grateful for the privilege of gathering in Your name. Lord, as we open Your Word and discuss what You have placed on our hearts, we ask that You quiet our minds and open our spirits to what You desire for each of us today. Help us not to come with our own agendas, but with open hands and willing hearts, ready to receive whatever You have for us. May this time together draw us closer to You and to one another. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one thing you are known for being really good at, whether it is cooking, fixing things, encouraging others, or something else entirely?

Key Verses

- John 6:1-14
- John 6:35
- Matthew 5:6
- Psalms 23:5

- 2 Chronicles 7:14
- 2 Peter 3:9
- Psalms 44:20
- John 3:16

Questions

- The pastor opened by saying that everyone has something to offer God, whether it is a skill, a personality trait, or a spiritual gift. What do you believe you personally bring to the table in your church or community?
- In John 6, Andrew brought a young boy with five loaves and two fishes to Jesus, even while questioning whether it would be enough. Have you ever felt like what you had to offer God was too small to matter? What happened when you offered it anyway?
- The pastor pointed out that the five loaves represent grace and the two fishes represent unity, and together they equal seven, the number of God's completion. How does this remind you that God can take what seems incomplete in your life and make it whole?
- The sermon described a pattern of being blessed, then broken, then multiplied, using both the feeding of the 5,000 and the story of Jacob as examples. Can you share a time when God allowed you to be broken and how that brokenness led to greater blessing or usefulness in His kingdom?
- The pastor challenged the group by asking what we are doing to compel people outside the church walls to come in and be filled. What are some practical ways your small group could reach people in your neighborhood, workplace, or school?
- The story of the little boy with the red marbles in his hand illustrates how we sometimes hold tightly to things we are unwilling to surrender to God. What are some things, whether habits, fears, relationships, or ambitions, that people commonly hold onto instead of placing them in God's hands?
- The pastor warned that America's spiritual decline did not begin in politics but in the home, when families forgot the goodness of God and stopped going to church. How can we as believers guard against spiritual forgetfulness in our own families and daily lives?
- The closing story of the soldier who called Jesus His 'forgotten Son' is a powerful picture of grace meeting a repentant heart. Is there someone in your life who has forgotten God? How can this group pray for them and what steps can you take to reach out to them this week?

Life Application

This week, identify one specific thing you have been holding back from God, whether it is a talent, a relationship, a fear, or your time, and intentionally place it in His hands. Then take one practical step to be His hands and feet to someone outside the church walls. It could be as simple as inviting a neighbor to church, sending an encouraging note, helping someone in need, or sharing your faith with a coworker. Come back next week ready to share what God did when you brought what you had to the table.

Key Takeaways

- Every believer has something to offer God. Whether it is your faith, your funds, your skills, or your praise, God can use whatever you bring to Him and multiply it for His kingdom.
- When we surrender what we have to Jesus and He blesses it, a season of brokenness often follows. But brokenness in God's hands is not the end. It is the beginning of multiplication and greater anointing.
- God's provision is always more than enough. Just as twelve baskets of fragments remained after feeding 5,000 people, God's supply exceeds every need when we trust Him with what we have.
- The church is called to go beyond its walls and compel people to come in. We must be intentional about sharing the gospel with those in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and communities.
- Spiritual forgetfulness is a serious danger. When we forget the name, the mercy, and the goodness of God, we drift from Him. We must stay in daily fellowship with Christ and never take for granted the grace that saved us.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, we thank You for this time together in Your Word. We are reminded today that You are able to take the little we have, bless it, and multiply it beyond anything we could ask or think. Forgive us, Father, for the times we have held back from You, for the times we have forgotten Your goodness, and for the times we have failed to be Your hands and feet to a hurting world. We surrender to You now everything we are and everything we have. Take it, bless it, and use it for Your glory. Lord, we lift up those in our group who are walking through brokenness right now. Remind them that You are the mender of broken wings and that Your grace is sufficient. Send us out this week with purpose and with love, compelled to bring others to Your table. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.