Summary

In this sermon, the pastor challenges the congregation to consider what they are bringing to the table for the kingdom of God. Drawing from John 6, he uses the story of a young boy who offered his five barley loaves and two small fishes to Jesus as a powerful illustration that God does not require great resources, only a willing heart. Just as Jesus multiplied that small lunch to feed thousands, He can take whatever we have, no matter how insignificant it may seem, and use it for His glory. The pastor urges every believer to find their God-given calling and actively serve in the church and community. He emphasizes that every guest must be known, every attendee must be connected, and every member must be serving. Through personal stories of leading people to Christ in a weight room and at a local stadium, He demonstrates that opportunities to share the gospel are everywhere. The sermon is a passionate call to stop sitting on the sidelines and to start using whatever gifts, talents, or experiences God has placed in our hands for the advancement of His kingdom.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with grateful hearts, thankful for the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ and for the privilege of gathering together in Your name. Lord, as we open Your Word and discuss what You have placed in our hands, we ask that You quiet our minds and open our hearts. Help each one of us to set aside our own agendas and truly hear what You want to speak to us today. May Your Holy Spirit guide our conversation, draw us closer to one another, and reveal to each person in this group exactly how You desire to use them for Your kingdom. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one skill, hobby, or talent you have that most people in this group might not know about?

Key Verses

- John 6:9
- John 6:11
- Matthew 6:33
- Jeremiah 33:3

- Matthew 5:6

Questions

- The young boy in John 6 had very little, just five barley loaves and two small fishes, yet he was willing to offer what he had. What do you think held the disciples back from seeing the potential in that small offering, and how do we sometimes do the same thing with our own gifts?
- The pastor said, 'Little is much when God is in it.' Can you think of a time in your own life when God took something small that you offered and used it in a way that was far greater than you expected?
- The sermon mentioned that God has never been limited by the size of our resources, pointing to Noah's gopher wood, Moses' rod, David's sling, and others. Which of these biblical examples resonates most with you personally, and why?
- The pastor challenged the congregation with the idea that every guest must be known, every attendee must be connected, and every member must be serving. Honestly, where do you feel you currently fall in that progression, and what might be your next step?
- The pastor shared personal stories of leading people to Christ in a weight room and at a stadium, saying that opportunities to share the gospel are everywhere. What is one place in your daily life where God might be placing people in your path that you have not yet recognized as a mission field?
- The sermon described the difference between being a funnel and a barrel, meaning some people receive blessings and pass them on while others hold everything for themselves. In what areas of your life might you be acting more like a barrel than a funnel?
- The pastor referenced Jeremiah 33:3, saying that prayer should be our first response, not our last resort. How does your personal prayer life reflect that priority, and what is one practical change you could make this week to strengthen it?
- The story of Uncle Buddy giving his boots to a barefoot stranger in the snow is a vivid picture of sacrificial generosity. What is one thing, whether time, talent, money, or a skill, that God might be asking you to give up or give away in order to serve someone else right now?

Life Application

This week, prayerfully identify one specific way you can use a gift, skill, or experience God has given you to serve someone else, whether inside the church or in your community. It does not have to be grand. It might be a conversation, a prayer, a meal, a ride, or simply showing up. Ask God each morning to put

someone in your path, and when He does, be willing to offer what you have, just like the boy with the loaves and fishes. At your next group meeting, come prepared to share what happened when you said yes.

Key Takeaways

- God does not ask us to bring what we do not have. He asks us to surrender what we do have, and He will multiply it for His glory, just as He multiplied the boy's five barley loaves and two fishes to feed thousands.
- Every believer has a God-given calling and a unique skill set. No one is too old, too broken, or too insignificant to serve in the kingdom of God. Excuses will not hold up when we stand before the King of Kings.
- The church is meant to be a funnel, not a barrel. We are called to receive God's blessings and pass them on to others, not to hoard them for ourselves.
- Sharing the gospel is not reserved for pastors or evangelists. Opportunities to tell others about Jesus are all around us every single day, in weight rooms, parking lots, stadiums, and neighborhoods.
- Prayer must be our first response, not our last resort. Some people will only be reached and some breakthroughs will only come through faithful, persistent prayer and fasting.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the time we have shared together today around Your Word. You have reminded us that You are not looking for the most talented, the most educated, or the most resourced among us. You are simply looking for willing hearts that will say, 'Here is what I have, Lord. Use it.' Like that young boy on the hillside, may we place whatever we have into Your hands without holding back. Give us eyes to see the people You are placing in our paths, courage to open our mouths and share Your love, and the faith to believe that You can take our little and do something great with it. May this group leave today stirred up and ready to serve. To You be all the glory, now and forever. In Jesus' name, amen.