



Let's start by doing a bit of self-evaluation about serving others. Be open and honest about where you are on these projects.

Ask - Rate yourself on if you would want to do this service project

Scale:

- 1- "I would love it"
- 5 - "meh"
- 10- "I would struggle"

- Raking Leaves
- Visiting a nursing home
- Vacation Bible School Helper
- Clean someone's house
- Serve at Food Bank
- Spend time with the student nobody talks to
- Babysit someone's kids
- Write a note of encouragement

Ask - Why are you willing to do some of the projects and not others?

Answers vary.

Ask - What keeps us from serving others the most?

Answers vary.

Suggestions:

- Time, Energy, Effort

In this session, we are going to talk about the importance of serving others. One of the biggest miracles Jesus performed was around a meal. Jesus feeding the 5000 was the only miracle that appears in all four of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) This speaks to its importance. Today, we will look at that story from the book of Luke.

A little background:

- Jesus gave the disciples the power to go and serve the community.
- They healed people, curing their diseases.
- And most importantly, they went and told people about the kingdom of God.
- After all that, they came back to Jesus and reported what had happened.

[Teacher Note: Have a student read or you read the following Scriptures.]

Luke 9:10-11 (ESV)

¹⁰When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, ¹¹but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

Ask - What was Jesus' first reaction to the news?

They withdrew by themselves.

Ask - Why do you think that was Jesus' reaction?

He wanted to hear more about what they had done.

He wanted to give them some rest.

Ask - What did the crowds do when they attempted to go and be by themselves?

They learned that they were trying to go somewhere so they followed them?

Ask - What do you think would have been the mental, and physical state of the disciples after their trip?

They were likely tired, worn out, needed some downtime, and wanted to be with Jesus.

Ask - Let's be honest if you are tired mentally, physically, or emotionally, what do you think you would be thinking?

Suggestions:

- Go away crowd!!
- I can't handle this now!

Ask - But what was Jesus' reaction to the people?

He welcomed them.

He spoke to them.

He healed them.

Jesus' reaction was one of service and care. Jesus gave everything to the last drop for people. Even when He might have been tired, hungry, or exhausted.

Luke 9:12 (ESV)

¹²Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here."

The disciples didn't want the crowd to stay.

Ask - What was their reasoning?

There wasn't enough food.

There wasn't enough lodging.

Ask - What was their suggestion to Jesus?

Send them away so they can go to the nearby villages.

Luke 9:13-14a (ESV)

¹³He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd." ¹⁴(About five thousand men were there.)

Ask - What was Jesus' reply?

You give them something to eat.

Ask - What do you think the reaction to Jesus' reply would have been?

Answers vary.

Suggestions:

- Shock or confusion

We have to give them credit to some degree. The disciples looked around and saw what they had. It's not recorded in Luke's telling of the story, but in the gospel of John, we learn they found a boy with a small lunch.

Ask - What did they have?

Five loaves of bread and two fish.

Realistically, it would have been like five biscuits and two sardines.

Ask – It wasn't going to be enough. How many people were they supposed to feed?

5,000 men was the count. And that didn't include all the women and children that would have been there.

Luke 9:14b-16 (ESV)

But he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁵The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. ¹⁶Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people.

How Jesus performed this miracle is significant.

Ask - What are the details of how Jesus had them feed the people?

He told them to have the people sit down in groups of 50.

He prayed and broke apart the loaves and fish.

He gave the food to the disciples to distribute.

Ask - How could Jesus have given food to these people?

- Answers vary.

This preview includes a select number of pages from this resource.

If you like what you see, download the entire resource today!

downloadyouthministry.com