

Two fish and 5 loaves of bread in my hands is a couple of fish sandwiches.

Two fish and 5 loaves of bread in God's hands will feed thousands.

It depends whose hands it's in.

Nails in my hands might produce a birdhouse.

Nails in Jesus Christ's hands will produce salvation for the entire world.

It depends whose hands it's in.

As you see now it depends whose hands it's in.

So put your concerns, your worries, your fears, your hopes, your dreams, your families and your relationship in God's hands because...

It depends whose hands it's in.

May you put your life in the hands of Jesus today and everyday!

### **Mission Menu**

#### **COVID Response Fund**

Thank you to all of the generous donors who have contributed to the COVID-19 Response Fund. To date, we have raised over \$30,000! Through your donations, we continue to help those who are the most vulnerable in our community.

Please consider a donation to the COVID-19 Response Fund today. Giving is easy; text COVID \$\_\_ (the amount you wish) to 73256, give online, or mail in a check with Response on the memo line to: Kirk in the Hills Attn: Finance Office 1340 W. Long Lake Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

#### **Eliminate Medical Debt for the City of Pontiac**

We have launched a campaign to eliminate \$2.8 million in medical debt in the City of Pontiac by working through *RIP Medical Debt*. Many of our community initiatives and programs (Ministry With Pontiac, Kirk Tutors, Accent Pontiac) have allowed us to *meet God in the neighborhood*, and this campaign honors the work of Pastor Fernando Rodríguez in mission and community. You can give online, text **kith debt** to **73256**, or mail a check to the Kirk with **Debt** in the memo line. Thank you!

#### **Lighthouse Food Ministry**

Pack food boxes, and/ or deliver food with Julie. Help needed every Thursday thru August between 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CA8AA2BA2FD0-lighthouse>

#### **Hope Against Trafficking**

They are looking for used (or new) copies of two specific books: *5 People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom and *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Drop them off at the Kirk Welcome Center thru August between 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Mon - Fri or Sundays at the Garden Service.



## **Small Groups – Sermon Notes** **Week of August 2, 2020**

**Luke 9:10-17**

### **Feeding the Five Thousand**

**10** On their return the apostles told Jesus all they had done. He took them with him and withdrew privately to a city called Bethsaida. **11** When the crowds found out about it, they followed him; and he welcomed them, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed to be cured.

**12** The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside, to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place." **13** But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." **14** For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each." **15** They did so and made them all sit down. **16** And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. **17** And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

### **Fill in the Blanks**

Isn't it strange that, at no other time, do we consider the \_\_\_\_\_ of a person like we consider it at the time of death.

I am sure that, if the family of a deceased disciple gathered with a minister to talk about their lives, and what made them, them, today's story from \_\_\_\_\_ would be one that they shared.

Somedays that \_\_\_\_\_ ... that cynicism ... is what makes us, us. Isn't it?

He gives it to the \_\_\_\_\_ to set before the crowd.

He trusts us to \_\_\_\_\_ what he's done ... to a world that needs it.

He, quite literally gives us a bread \_\_\_\_\_ to feed to one another, so that we might be beckoned, that a way might be made for us, that we might creep out to join ... not just in this miracle of the supper ... but in all of his miracle making ... all over this place he created.

Do you know the kind of person you have to be ... to beckon a \_\_\_\_\_ forward?

And, at the end of everything, at the end of our lives, when our stories were told, the way we crept out into the miracle making, the way God beckoned us out into the intersections of life ... and the way we followed ... that will be what makes \_\_\_\_\_/ \_\_\_\_\_.

### Showing Up

1. Name three things that make you, you.
2. Name three things that make our church, us.
3. Share your thoughts and experiences on communion.

### Digging In

1. Jesus seems to give what everyone needs in this text: The disciples need rest, so he takes them to Bethsaida (v.10); he heals those who need to be cured (v.11); he provides food to those who need to eat (v. 16-17). The disciples, however, wants Jesus to send the crowd away (v. 12) because they cannot imagine what Jesus is capable of doing. Thank God Jesus gives us what we need rather than what we want! How much of our wants arise from our lack of imagination? Share about a time when God gave you what you needed rather than what you wanted.
2. The disciples feel overwhelmed and inadequate when Jesus tells them, "You give them something to eat." However, they still bring to Jesus the little they do have, and Jesus multiplies it thousand folds. What is Jesus asking you to do that seems overwhelming? What do you already have that you can bring to Jesus today?

Pastor Nate says in his sermon, "Jesus entrusts us with greatness of abundance, flawed as we are." Our job is not to create the abundance but to share the abundance that has been entrusted to us. When do you experience God's abundance in your life and in the life of our church? How do you share it with others?

3. This is the only miracle (other than the miracle of resurrection) that is found in all four gospels. Why do you think that is? How does this miracle capture the spirit of communion? What does this miracle say about who God is, God's kingdom, and our role in God's kingdom?

A similar miracle is found in the Old Testament (See Exodus 16)—Jesus' Jewish crowd would have recognized the parallel right away. In light of that, why is this miracle so important? What is it saying about who Jesus is? (Hint: John 6:25-40)

4. In Mark and Matthew, it states that Jesus had compassion for the crowd. His teaching, healing and feeding came from his compassion. How do you define compassion? Karoline Lewis writes: "The Greek word for compassion has its root in a word that means "guts" and the seat of feeling. "Feeling it in your gut." You know that feeling -- where your reaction to something sends your stomach churning... But for Jesus, compassion is not just a feeling but a doing. And Jesus had to show his followers that compassion is inherent to discipleship. Compassion is a requirement on your part, even more so, an urge on your part. It hits you in the gut and sends you into motion for the sake of the other. Think about its etymology -- to have sympathy with, co-suffering, passion together." As much as Jesus had compassion on the crowd that felt lost and shepherdless, we sometimes feel this way too. Who has compassion for you? Who tends to you? Who makes sure you are protected and safe and loved and nurtured? And in return, who do you have compassion for?

### Going Out

1. Pastor Nate says in his sermon, "Give the feast. Feed them. Jesus turned the miracle over to his disciples." What abundance has Jesus entrusted into your hands, into the hands of your small group and into the hands of our church? How will we "give the feast" this week individually, as a small group and as a church?
2. Here's a poem to consider:

A basketball in my hands is worth about \$19. A basketball in Michael Jordan's hands is worth about \$33 million. It depends whose hands it's in.

A baseball in my hands is worth about \$6. A baseball in Mark McGwire's hands is worth about \$19 million. It depends whose hands it's in.

A sling shot in my hands is a kid's toy. A sling shot in David's hand is a mighty weapon. It depends whose hands it's in.

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