

Replenishment and Increase

"And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down, and likewise of the fish as much as they wanted"
(John 6:11; NKJV).

The verse above has been taken from the account of how Jesus fed more than five thousand people from a few little fish and loaves. It holds keys we all need, to move into the next level of miracle supply.

It is so significant that Jesus lifted up the bread and fish and gave thanks to God. If I was standing in front of thousands of hungry and expectant people holding those five little barley loaves and two small fish in my hands, I probably would have been really feeling the pressure. Not Jesus! He knew exactly where this was going. Faced with what could have been an overwhelming need, He set His eyes on heaven, lifted up that tiny quantity of food, and **gave thanks to God.**

Jesus did not despise that little bit of food and brush it off as insignificant and inadequate (as His disciples did in John 6:8). There was a big need, but He saw this as His seed. He offered it up and thanked God for it! There are needs in all our lives, some really big, and we may be looking for a specific size or kind of answer from God, when He has already provided in His way. It may be in seed form, or in the early stages of growth and may not look like what we are expecting, but it is given to us for the ultimate fulfillment of the need we face. There is something we could begin doing with it: we can begin to value it as a precious gift from God, and begin to be truly thankful (out loud!) to our Father for His provision.

Our miracle of increase begins to be released as we allow the Holy Spirit to show us the present and potential value and worth of what is in our hands, and we express our gratitude to God. Jesus valued the little offering that was brought to Him. He knew that those simple little items of food held the potential for infinite, miraculous expansion in His hands and **He sincerely thanked His Father.**

It delights the Father when we are grateful, and when we see something we can be thankful for in every situation. It blesses His heart when we have something we badly need but we trust Him enough to release it freely into the life of another. Jesus is all about giving. He gave His life for you and me. He took on humanity's bondage that we might be free!

Be blessed dear friend, and get ready for a new and abundant season. Offer up your "little" to Jesus with a thankful heart, and see Him give it back to you multiplied and running over. You are loved and highly favored!

Jesus spoke these words when His disciples all marveled that a fruitless fig tree withered away at the word of Jesus. He is speaking the same to us today as He calls each of us to look at our lives and take decisive steps towards the fulfillment of His promises.

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