A need, a solution, a question, a sack lunch, a command. Matthew 14:13-21

As a Christ follower, you have been <u>gifted</u> by God for ministry. 2 Corinthians 9:8

At some point you are going to feel that tug; to do something you don't <u>feel qualified</u> to do.

You do what you <u>can do</u> and trust God to do what only <u>He can</u> <u>do</u>.

Q: Send them away or do something?

When we feel God's nudge to act, we will face <u>fear</u>. Matthew 14: 22-33

- o Failure
- o Inadequacy
- Ministry is a team sport

Q: You feed them! _____

Life Group Questions

For week of October 26, 2014

To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and to see God change your lives from the inside out!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. We all have different capacities and abilities in how we balance the ebb and flow of life and serving others. What might be some barriers to responding to your God-given opportunities to serve?

2. Have you ever felt like you missed a God-given opportunity to make a difference? If so, explain.

Going Deeper

Read Matthew 14:13-17. The disciples used the size of the crowd and their lack of food as excuses to not do what Jesus asked. What excuses have you used?

As you consider the disciples' excuses, what were they forgetting to factor into the equation?

Read Matthew 14:18-21. What talent, skill, experience, expertise, or ability do you have that, like the loaves and fish, don't appear to be things God could use in a significant way?

The disciples did what they knew how to do. They passed out the broken pieces of bread and fish. And God blessed their efforts and allowed them to accomplish far more than they could have in their own strength. What is the lesson for us?

Most would think it would be no problem to respond to an opportunity that God has clearly spoken on. Yet, at the burning bush, Moses found a number of reasons to squander his opportunity. Read the passages below, what do you relate to about Moses' response and the risks he saw he would encounter if he accepted the God-given opportunity he was being offered?

Exodus 3:1-4, 10-12

Exodus 3:13-15

Exodus 4:1-6

Exodus 4:10-12

Exodus 4:13

Are there any excuses you would add to this? Are there any you need to be careful of using?

Prayer:

Father, open my eyes to the need in front of me, show me what I can do, then reveal Your power in what only You can do.