

Nourishing The Hungry | Luke 9:10-17

1. Cobble together the different details of the 'Feeding of the 5000' accounts as told by the various Gospel writers. How do they differ and/or overlap...? (see: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14)
2. How would you have responded, if you were one of Jesus's disciples, to His request to feed the crowd? Has God ever asked you to do something where your level of doubt exceeded the level of your faith?
3. Paul Tillich says, '*Doubt is not the opposite of faith; it is one element of faith.*' Do you agree or disagree...? How is faith different from certainty?
4. Share how doubt has been problematic (or not) in your journey of faith? How did you respond? What did others think of your doubt? Is doubt the same as a lack of faith? How does Jesus respond to the doubt of the disciples in our story? Are you wrestling with any specific doubts today? Share if you feel able and seek the wisdom of God from your group.
5. Take turns to share one story of a different Bible character who doubted. What do you learn from each of these stories? How does God respond to the doubt in each? Can you identify the grace of God in each story?
6. Is it possible that doubt can make your faith journey richer somehow?
7. Luke's Gospel fails to mention the young boy who provided the fish and loaves. How significant is it that a nameless young child is part of this story? Are there implications for us?
8. Can you think of an occasion when you offered God what you could and he somehow multiplied what you offered (possibly not physically but maybe relationally or spiritually)?
9. As we think ahead to our Build Project, Project Five:One, and the gift/pledge day on 01 October, how might this story inspire your sacrificial giving?
10. Reflect on the words of Psalm 73. Can you identify with the Psalmist? In what ways does the Psalmist make doubt a doorway into deeper joy with God?
11. If you have time, respond to the questions at the footer of this page.



What did you discover about God in this passage?
What did you discover about people in this passage?
How will you commit to obey this passage this week?
With whom will you share what you have learned?





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