

## **"You Feed Them" - Called to Do the Impossible**

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Doing ministry from our own resources is futile, fruitless and foolish.  
Simple enough.

Doing ministry out of His resources, meeting the needs He has clearly called us to attend to is what He equips, expects and privileges us to do. Little argument here.

To help us learn and remember the above truths, I offer you a retelling of a very familiar story: The Feeding of the 5000 (see Mark 6:30-44). In this story, we hear Jesus say to His disciples concerning the overwhelming needs of the masses: "You feed them." (Mark 6:3). Jesus charged them with this daunting and humanly impossible task. One they could clearly not fulfill alone. Yet, following His instructions, and doing their part in reliance on Him, they did feed the 5000!

I hope this "creative rendering" will help you rehear this great story and be fed by the important message it has for all of Jesus' disciples: Christ's followers are to rely on God to do the ministries to which He calls them. (I highly recommend reading the Biblical account first.)

The Feeding of the 5000 in the Key of "S"

Seeking a solitary setting for solace with His selected students, the Savior's ship was seen setting out and was summarily sought by the seeking citizens of the surrounding suburbs.

Seeing with shepherd's sight, He surmised that these sheep were shepherdless.

Stirred, He set out to school them in several subjects.

Seeing that the sun was setting, the Savior's shipmate-students, sounded out the suggestion the seekers be sent to seek sustenance since sunset soon sought this secluded spot.

Surprising them, the Savior stated: "You set supper out for them!"

Simple summations steered them to state:

"Seven months salary plus one would suffice to supply such supplicants.

"Shall we shell out so many shekels for bread to set out for supper?"

"Seek & see the sum of loaves you have" The Savior summoned.

Surveying the crowds, they said "Five and two sardines"

Satisfied with the supplies, the Savior said: "seat the sheep to eat in sections of 50's & 100's."

Securing the supplies, the Savior scanned the skies to say thanks.  
He then sanctified the scones & seafood.  
Subsequently, He sliced the bread and spread out the supplies via His students  
to be set before the scads of salivating ones.

So too the seafood was set forth.  
Supper was simple yet superbly satisfying! Scrumptious!

Seeing the surplus, He summoned the scraps to be scooped up - a dozen basketfuls.  
Statistically speaking, the male supplicants who were satisfied by the Sovereign One's supper was 5000.

A Salient Sermon for All Students of the Savior:

Sure! Supplying the scads of needs of the shepherdless sheep solo is silly!  
So, simply set before them what He supplies from the simple supplies you set before Him. He solely satisfies the soul.

In Summation:

The Savior's students should seek to set before seekers what the Sovereign One supplies,  
satisfying souls with His stretching of stuff.

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