

## E-Series

### Your Lunch Box (Part II)



*"Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), 2 and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. 3 Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. 4 The Jewish Passover Feast was near. 5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" 6 He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"*

*8 Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, 9 "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" 10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. 12 When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." 13 So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. 14 After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." –John 6:1-14*

A massive crowd follows Jesus up on the mountain. Jesus' first reaction is to ask Philip, "Where are we going to buy bread to feed all these people?" Philip replied something like, "Where? More like, How? It would cost a mint to feed all these people."

Just then Andrew offers up a suggestion. "There's a boy here who has a couple of sardines and five whole-grain muffins in his lunch box. Wait. Forget I mentioned it. That's not even a drop in the bucket." But, Jesus wants them to bring him the lunch box.

I mentioned yesterday that I had a lunch box growing up. It was a Star Wars: Empire Strikes Back edition. But, like I said yesterday, it was a waste. I never once packed a lunch and took it to school. I had a lunch box, but I never used it. It's sad when you don't use your lunch box.

"There's a boy here who has a couple of sardines and five whole-grain muffins in his lunch box." Leave it up to the Boy Scout to be prepared. But, he didn't *have* to share his lunch. I doubt that the disciples intimidated the boy. I don't think that they commandeered his food. Instead, I imagine that he was thrilled to be able to give what was in his lunch box to Jesus. It was his gift to Jesus. There wasn't much inside, but he gave it to Jesus anyway. And when he does, when Jesus gets his hands on it...well, you know what happened.

Question is: What's in your lunch box? We all have a lunch box. And, we all have something in it. We all have gifts, talents, and passions. We all have gifts that we can give to Jesus. No matter how small or insignificant we might think they are, if we give them to Jesus, he will make them enough. He'll make them more than enough.

So what about it? What's in your lunch box? What are your gifts? Are you giving them to Jesus?

Looking in My Lunch Box,  
*Pastor Michael*