

(Continue) The disciples, who initially saw the five loaves and two fishes as insufficient, became part of the miracle as they distributed the food. This is a beautiful metaphor of our role in the church today—serving as agents of His grace and abundance.

In conclusion, this passage teaches us about the power of blessing what seems insufficient. We learn to take our worries to God, offer our resources in faith, and bless others through generous acts of service. May we be inspired to look up to heaven, give thanks, and become conduits of God's grace in our world, trusting that He can multiply our humble offerings to bless others beyond measure. In times of need, let us never forget the miracle that begins with a moment of gratitude and a willingness to share.

Lift Up in Prayer

Pray for the leaders of the world as they navigate complex challenges with wisdom, courage, and peace; Archie's recovery from surgery, asking for healing, strength, and comfort; Yu Bedwell's uncle as he undergoes cancer treatment, asking for endurance, effective care, and God's peace; David's four children, that they would grow in salvation, faith, and obedience; Alondra and her pregnancy, asking for health, protection, and success throughout this journey; Jacinth's recovery from her previous operation; Jonathan's wife as she undergoes chemotherapy; Caleb and Carissa Pierce as they enter a new season as long-term caregivers for a sweet baby boy they are calling Beau; Jim as he departs the Army and transitions into the civilian sector; Isaiah Whalen has found a ministry role; God would strengthen and unite Western Hills Christian Church; Bob Smithson as he recovers from a stroke, asking for healing, perseverance, and support; Jason R. Tucker's recovery after an assault by a motorcycle club, asking for physical healing, emotional strength, and protection; Robert Medlock's family, asking for spiritual strength, unity, and peace; **Adan Vargas clarity, courage, and safety to leave this unhealthy relationship; Surround Nancy Michaelis with peace, comfort, and Your tender presence as she enters hospice care. Hold her family close during this transition, especially her husband, Stanley, giving them strength, comfort, and loving. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

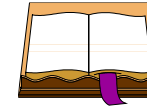
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Bible Study 10:00

Sunday Worship 11:00

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel (Sanctuary)



Wednesday Bible Study 18:30

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel

Rooms: 143 (Adults)

164 (Children)

September 27, 2026

No. 474

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31)

The Generosity of Blessing

By Francis Schaeffer

In the Gospel of Luke 9:16, we witness a remarkable moment in the ministry of Jesus: "Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude." This simple yet profound act is emblematic of the incredible power of God's provision, the blessing of food, and the importance of sharing in community.

As we delve into the context surrounding this passage, we find ourselves amidst a crowd of desperate individuals who have sought out Jesus. They are weary and hungry, both physically and spiritually. Jesus, aware of their needs, responds with compassion. The scene reveals not only the physical hunger of the people but also their spiritual yearning. Here lies a powerful truth: Jesus sees us not just in terms of our physical needs but also our spiritual ones.

The act of taking the five loaves and two fishes is significant. These humble provisions were inadequate for feeding a multitude of five thousand men, plus women and children. This sets the stage for a demonstration of God's miraculous power. The number five, representing grace, and two, representing witness, are both symbolic in this context. **(Continue page 2)**

(Continue) The loaves represent sustenance, and the fishes represent the richness of Christ's teaching. When we offer our limited resources to God, He can multiply them in ways we cannot even begin to imagine.

"Looking up to heaven," Jesus models for us a posture of dependency and prayer. This simple act reminds us that all blessings come from above. It's a call to acknowledge God as the source of every good gift. As we enter our personal and communal challenges, whether it be lack of resources, health issues, or emotional struggles, we too must adopt this posture—looking up in faith and expectation. When we recognize that everything begins with God, we become open to receiving His abundant provisions.

Jesus then blessed the loaves and fishes. Blessing, in biblical times, was not merely a spoken word but an impartation of God's favor. In this moment, Jesus gives thanks to the Father, demonstrating gratitude amidst scarcity. It prompts us to ask ourselves: Do we express gratitude for the little we have? The act of giving thanks invites God's presence into our situation. It transforms our perspective from scarcity to abundance, prompting a culture of thankfulness that leads to joy.

After blessing, Jesus breaks the bread. Breaking the bread is reminiscent of His future sacrifice—His body broken for us. It teaches us that through Christ's sacrifice, we receive spiritual nourishment and life eternal. This act of breaking provokes us to consider areas in our lives that need to be broken—our pride, our fear, our reluctance to share. Only through breaking do we find a deeper connection with Christ and with each other. It challenges us to be vulnerable, allowing God's grace to flow through us to others.

Finally, the process culminates in distribution. Jesus gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. Here, we see the importance of community in God's plan. God often uses His people as conduits of His blessings. **(Continue page 4)**



We will wear our congregational T-shirts this Sunday for Worship Service and our Fellowship Luncheon at 12:45 p.m. in the Sentry Mall Food Court.

Notes:

CONTACTS

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Totals for

September 20, 2026

Attendance:

30

Contribution:

528.00 Dollars

115,000 KRW