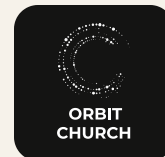


He's Preparing a Place

2025-03-16 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



John 6:1-13

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Before feeding the five thousand, Jesus turned to Philip and asked: where shall we buy bread for all these people? John adds a note: he asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. That is Pastor Matt's big idea. God knows your provision before you know your need. Philip did what most of us do: he priced it out and listed the reasons it could not work. Andrew pushed past the math just far enough to bring a boy with five loaves and two fish. That is where the miracle got its foothold.

To get started

- What is something you talked yourself out of because the math did not work?

Looking back at the message

The crew and the crowd distinction is an Orbit phrase. Make sure everyone knows what it means.

- 1 God knows your provision before you know your need. Think of something you handled recently. How would believing that have changed your approach?
- 2 Pastor Matt pointed out that the crowd got fed, but the crew got to take part in the miracle. Honestly, which would you rather be in: the crowd or the crew?
- 3 Pastor Matt said his job is to create momentum and God's job is to multiply it. What does that split mean for what you do with your limited capacity? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read John 6:1-13. Verse 6 is the key line and is easy to skim.

- 4 Read John 6:1-7. Verse 6 says Jesus asked Philip only to test him, since he already knew what he would do. If Jesus already knew, why ask at all?
- 5 Philip answers with a price: eight months' wages would not be enough. Andrew answers by bringing a boy with five loaves. What is the difference between those two responses?
- 6 Verse 11 says everyone ate as much as they wanted, and there were leftovers. What does that abundance tell you about God's character?
- 7 Read Ephesians 3:20. Immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. How does that verse read differently after this story? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

He gave people permission to struggle and doubt. Say that out loud, since some in the room need it.

- 8 Pastor Matt said there are doors where you only find out what is on the other side after you walk through them. What door are you standing in front of right now?
- 9 Where has logic been the thing keeping you from moving?
- 10 Pastor Matt gave the room permission to doubt, saying you cannot guilt yourself out of a doubt, you have to walk through it. What are you currently doubting?
- 11 What is your five loaves and two fish, the small thing you actually have in hand?

The group together

Moving from crowd to crew usually happens because someone asked.

- 12 What keeps people sitting in the crowd instead of joining the crew?
- 13 What would it look like for this group to take a step of faith together rather than individually?
- 14 Who could you invite into something you are already doing?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What step of faith have you been running the numbers on instead of taking?

You might pray about

- For the small thing each person has to offer
- For faith that moves before the logic resolves
- For those in the group who are doubting right now
- For a step from the crowd into the crew