

“Growing Stronger While Serving”

Trust/faith is the essence of one’s relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

YOUR FATHER WANTS TO STRETCH YOUR FAITH MUSCLE, EXHAUST IT, AND BUILD IT UP IN ORDER TO HAVE A MORE INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.

Matthew 14

¹³ When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns.

¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵ As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

¹⁶ Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

THIS IS THE MOMENT OUR FAITH/TRUST MUSCLE IS STRETCHED AND CHALLENGED!

¹⁷ “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

¹⁸ “Bring them here to me,” he said.

**WE SAY, “GOD, I DON’T HAVE...”
JESUS SAYS, “BRING ME WHAT YOU HAVE.”**

¹⁹ And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

**THEY DID WHAT THEY KNEW HOW TO DO,
TRUSTING THAT GOD WOULD DO WHAT ONLY HE COULD DO.**

**WE MUST LET GOD DO HIS PART, WHILE WE DO OURS,
WHICH IS TRUSTING THAT HE WILL DO WHAT HE SAID.**

**THE MAIN ISSUE: YOUR FATHER WANTS TO GROW YOUR FAITH,
YOUR TRUST, YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.**

²⁰ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹ The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

**“FATHER, PLEASE INVITE ME OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE;
STRETCH MY FAITH; BLOW UP MY TRUST IN YOU; SO THAT
I WILL HAVE A MORE INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.”**

