



THE SIGNAL

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR SUPPORTERS
OF THE "WHERE GOD IS BLESSING"
BROADCASTING NETWORK

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Only one of our Lord's miracles is recorded in all four of the gospel accounts. We usually refer to it as the "feeding of the five thousand" based on Mark's record [Mark 6:44]. He tells us there were about five thousand men who were fed. Matthew's account tells us "they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children." [Matthew 14:21] A conservative total estimate would number above fifteen to twenty thousand.

After their return from a preaching mission, Jesus suggests to His disciples that they resort to a secluded area for regrouping and rest. When they arrive, a vast host of people are gathered to meet them. No rest for the weary! Immediately, our Lord begins ministering to these, first by healing the sick of various diseases, then by teaching them many things. [Mark 6:34] As the hour grows late in the day, towards supper time, the disciples start to worry about what to do.

Jesus didn't send the masses away to find food on their own. We learn here that He seized every opportunity to minister, even when it seemed inconvenient and intrusive. We are the Lord's ambassadors and should view our day-to-day interactions with others in the same way. How many times have we missed opportunities because the timing did not coincide with our calendar or mood?

He saw the masses as sheep not having a shepherd. He came to seek and to save that which was lost. As His disciples, we should display the same burden, flexibility, and discernment as we go through the daily round of life.

The disciples' solution to the problem at hand was to "send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat." [Mark 6:36]

Wiersbe comments that "Jesus sent the twelve apostles out to minister because He had compassion on the needy multitudes. This time, the needy multitudes came to them—and the disciples wanted to send them away! As yet, they had not learned to look at life through the eyes of their Master. To them, the crowds were a problem, perhaps even a nuisance; but to Jesus, they were as sheep without a shepherd." [Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, N.T. [Vol.

1, p. 132]

We can sympathize with the disciples. They have a huge problem on their hands. Their first response is to not solve the problem at all, but to pass the burden back onto the people. Our Lord sees things differently.

Here is a biblical principle in problem solving: start with what you have. When Moses was called to present the claims of Jehovah to Pharaoh and to demand the immediate release of the Lord's enslaved people, he offered several objections. God's response was, "What is in your hand?" God would miraculously use Moses' shepherd's rod in leading the Israelites out of bondage. [Exodus 4:1-5]

Here we see that one of the disciples found a little boy with a lunch of five barley loaves and two fish, a typical lunch for a lad or a day laborer. The disciples were instructed to have the crowd of people sit down in groups of fifties and hundreds to expedite the process. Miraculously, as the food was dispensed, there was enough for everyone present! Each person was filled, and we read there were twelve baskets of food left over. Our Lord never wastes anything. John Phillips notes this:

"The miracle of multiplying by dividing and of adding by subtracting began. The Lord of the atom, the Creator of the genetic code, simply bypassed all of the usual means whereby loaves and fishes are made and went into the business of doing the humanly impossible. Loaves and fishes multiplied in His hands as easily as water transformed itself into wine at His look. Given an omnipotent God, who is able to create everything—from subatomic particles to sprawling galaxies—nothing is incredible about this miracle. It is exactly what one would expect were God to be present, manifest in the flesh."

May we have His passion, His patience, His perspective, and His power as we go in His stead to share His gospel with those we encounter each day.

Thank you for partnering with us here at the Where God Is Blessing Broadcasting Network to get out the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. "Little is much when God is in it."

Your servant,
Chris Lamb

ADVENTURES IN ODYSSEY

SATURDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

Adventures in Odyssey began as an experiment. In 1986 Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family wanted to produce a drama series for the radio that would appeal to children in the hope of countering some of the questionable programming they were viewing during Saturday morning cartoons. Today, thirty-nine years and one thousand episodes later, *Adventures in Odyssey* has become an award-winning Christian audio drama series that brings biblical principles to life through a balance of fun, faith, and imagination. Although the target audience is children who are eight to twelve years old, it can be enjoyed by the whole family. The adventures often start with grandfatherly Mr. Whittaker (“Whit”), who runs an ice cream shop called Whit’s End. Young friends from all over town come to Whit for advice, and his employees [perky Connie Kendall and genius Eugene Meltsner] often learn as much as the kids! And Wooton Bassett, the zany, fun loving mail man, helps the kids in his own unique way. An animated version of *Adventures in Odyssey* can be seen on WAY TV, Channel 47 on Saturday mornings, and on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. [Check the WAY TV broadcast schedule for specific times]. For program updates, episode streaming, daily devotions, and more, visit the *Adventures in Odyssey* website at www.whitsend.org.

FOCUS FAMILY THEATRE

SATURDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

Focus on the Family Radio Theatre is more than just storytelling and much more than an audio book. Each weekly, half-hour episode includes a cast of internationally acclaimed actors that make these dynamic stories come alive across the vast stage of one’s imagination. These exciting dramas are so compelling, it is difficult to turn them off [or to exit the car before they are finished]. A recently-aired classics series has included *The Hiding Place*, the story of Corrie ten Boom; *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C. S. Lewis; *Bonhoeffer: the Cost of Freedom* by Paul McCusker; and *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott. Current episodes include *The Secret Garden* by Frances H. Burnett and *The Silver Chair* by C. S. Lewis. Future episodes will include *The Legend of Squanto* by Paul McCusker; Charles Dickens’ classic, *A Christmas Carol*; *The Life of Jesus from the Luke Reports*; and *Amazing Grace*, the story of John Newton; just to name a few. The Saturday evening Family Hour on WGIB provides a quality and wholesome entertainment replacement for Christian families. Someone described it best when they said, “Focus Family Theatre merges the theatre of the mind with the theatre of the heart.”

BROADCASTING THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST 24-HOURS-A-DAY, 7-DAYS-A-WEEK

91.9 BIRMINGHAM
107.9 TUSCALOOSA
106.1 MOODY/ODENVILLE
101.5 COLUMBIANA



106.1 JASPER
92.3 SPRINGVILLE
47.2 WAY TV RADIO FEED

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