



REFLECTIONS

May 2, 2010

**“Here is a boy with five small barley loaves
and two small fish, but how far will they go
among so many?”**

John 6:9

Small Amounts

The young man settled into the grassy hillside. It was the best place he could find among the throngs trying to see this man they called Jesus. Amidst the mass of people, he felt small and insignificant, so it must have surprised him when one of Jesus’ followers asked about the contents of his lunch pail. It was a meager amount, only five small loaves and two tiny fish. It was hardly enough to share. But if it would help, he was willing to offer it. He did. From a small amount, our Lord did great things.

Small as the young boy felt, we often feel small and insignificant too. Our God is a very big God. His bountiful gifts to us flourish all around. In the vastness of them, our offerings seem small and insignificant. It’s hard to imagine that they really make a difference. The amounts we give are too meager to meet the many needs of our world—to feed the hungry, to heal the sick, to repair the broken. But our loving Lord has mighty powers. With our small amounts, He does great things.

From the meager lunch a young boy was willing to give, Jesus fed five thousand. From our meagerness, He can do wondrous things too if we but offer.

Gracious and loving God. We offer ourselves to you. Use the gifts we give and the lives we lead as the loaves and fishes that will feed those in need, that will renew minds of those in search of refreshment, and that will redeem lives that are destined for destruction. With the steadfast love of your Son, Jesus Christ, use us to bring life and joy into the minds of children and youth whose lives we touch. Use us as reflections of the Savior into the lives of our neighbors, those in our work settings, and to everyone we meet. Through your guiding hand use our lives to bring glory to your kingdom.

Loving God, receive our lives as gifts to you. With smallness, you do great things. We pray that through us the light of our Savior will shine throughout the world. And it is in the holy name of Jesus the Christ that we offer our gifts, our lives, and this humble prayer.

Amen

“You are the light of the world.”

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