

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Do you prefer to socialize at large parties, have a dinner for four, or spend a quiet evening with a friend? How would you feel about serving at each of these events? Why?

READ ABOUT IT: James 1:22-24, John 6:5-13, John 6:26-27, Romans 12:1, Ecclesiastes 11:4

THINK ABOUT IT

- 2. Read John 6:5-13. What was the test Jesus was using on Philip? What grades would you give Philip and Andrew for Jesus' test? Why was there more food after the feeding that before?
- **3. Read John 6:26-27.** Why was the crowd following Jesus? Why do people follow Jesus today? Why do you follow Him?
- 4. Read Romans 12:1 and Ecclesiastes 11:4. What does it mean to "offer your bodies to God because of all he has done for you"? Why does Paul call this "truly the way to worship" God? What holds you back from fully giving yourself to God in service?

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. How will you choose to serve God and others in this coming year? What ministries did you select in this morning's survey? Is Christ calling you to do something new or seemingly impossible for Him?

James 1:22-24 NIV11

²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

John 6:5-13 NIV11

⁵When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

⁸Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹²When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

John 6:26-27 NIV11

²⁶Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

Romans 12:1 NIV11

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 NIV11

⁴Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.