

Mark 6:34-44 NLT

³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as He stepped from the boat, and He had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So, He began teaching them many things. ³⁵ Late in the afternoon His disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. ³⁶ Send the crowds away so they can go to the nearby farms and villages and buy something to eat.”

³⁷ But Jesus said, “You feed them.”

“With what?” they asked. “We’d have to work for months to earn enough money to buy food for all these people!”

³⁸ “How much bread do you have?” He asked. “Go and find out.” They came back and reported, “We have five loaves of bread and two fish.” ³⁹ Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred.

⁴¹ Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, ***He kept giving the bread to the disciples so they could distribute*** it to the people. He also divided the fish for everyone to share. ⁴² They all ate as much as they wanted, ⁴³ and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish. ⁴⁴ A total of 5,000 men and their families were fed.

Today, I want to share a message with you that I’m going to title: **When You Don’t Have Enough.**

Has God ever asked you to do something that you could not pull off on your own?

Has God ever given you a vision that just seemed impossible?

Isn’t it strange that throughout the Bible, God often challenged people to do things they could not do?

Cleanse the lepers.

Cast out demons.

Heal the sick.

Raise the dead.

These aren't difficult tasks, they're impossible tasks.

And in this story the disciples bring to Jesus a legitimate problem.

The people had been on their feet all day; they had traveled miles around the Sea of Galilee. They were tired, they were hungry, we need to cut them loose so they can get home, settle down and eat. The people are hungry.

Then Jesus said, “You feed them.”

If you want to go far in life, don't point out a problem unless you're willing to be a part of the solution.

Now we know the story, we just read it, Jesus told them to go into the crowd, gather up any food that anyone had and bring it to Him. And out of a crowd of 5,000 families, only one child had something to give.

Survey the crowd: If you have anything to eat, in your purse, pocket, jacket, bag, throw it up here.

You know there was more in that crowd than what was given.

But Jesus didn't rebuke the crowd, He fed the crowd.

He took what was given and multiplied it.

Anything surrendered to Jesus has unlimited potential.

Mark 6:41 Amplified

Then He broke the loaves and [repeatedly] gave them to the disciples...

Mark 6:41 New American Standard Bible

He blessed *the food* and broke the loaves, and He gave *them* to the disciples *again and again...*

Mark 6:41 Christian Standard Bible

He kept giving them to his disciples...

The Miracles of Jesus by Clarence Sexton

The Lord blessed and broke the little boy's lunch. He commanded the people to sit down in groups of fifty and groups of one hundred. The disciples came to Jesus to get what they needed to feed the people. They started with just a few loaves and some fish, but every time they went to the Lord, there was enough to take care of their hundred or their fifty. There wasn't enough at the beginning for them to take care of five thousand, but when they made their trip to the Lord, there was enough to feed their fifty or their one hundred. He alone provides what we need *as we need it*.

God is never going to work in our lives where His work does not require faith. When those disciples made their way back to Jesus, they had to believe that when they got there, He would have enough for the group they were commanded to feed. When they went back to Jesus, they had to believe that He would have what they needed to feed another hundred or another fifty. Do you know what we would find on that grass? We would find a well-worn path through the grass that led in one direction, straight to Jesus. There should be a well-worn path in our lives that leads straight to Him.

God wants to do something so big in your life that you will never get it done, unless you keep going back to Him for help.

Does the name Henry Crowell ring a bell? You might not recognize his name, but you will certainly recognize the name of his company. When Henry was nine, his father died from tuberculosis. At the age of seventeen, Henry himself contracted the disease, and it seemed as though his last days were quickly approaching. One evening he attended an evangelistic campaign in Cleveland, Ohio where D.L. Moody was preaching. He listened carefully as Moody declared, "The world has yet to see what God can do through a man fully dedicated to Him."

Crowell determined to be God's man. He knew his calling would look much different than Dwight Moody's. He wasn't a preacher. But that day, he purposed to make money so he could invest in those like Moody. Henry prayed, "I resolve, Oh God, if You preserve my life and allow me to make money to be used in Your service, I will keep my name out of it, so You will have the glory."

Henry grew stronger and began honing his business instincts, shrewdly investing his family's wealth. He started new companies, purchased properties, and introduced innovations to the marketplace. When a mill owned by nearby Quakers became available, Henry purchased it with the intent of making cereal products for families across the country. The Quaker Oats brand was born.

The money rolled in – and it rolled out. Henry consistently gave 65 to 70 percent of his income to Christian causes. Millions of dollars flowed to churches, schools, missions, and yes, the Moody Bible Institute. Because of Henry's vision and the generosity of Quaker Oats, the Moody Bible Institute became a powerful training center. He helped start Moody Press, Moody Magazine, and Moody radio ministries.

From 2005 to 2010, Quaker Oats donated nearly \$40 million worth of products to food banks across the country. Today, Quaker Oats is a household name. God honors those who honor Him. It's not a coincidence Quaker Oats has experienced the success it's known over the years.

As of early 2026, Knoxville is ranked as a top U.S. destination

As of early 2026, East Knoxville is experiencing targeted redevelopment,, contributing to Knoxville's projected status as a top U.S. moving destination for 2026