

Title: A Feast for All

Theme: Little Becomes Much in Jesus' Hands

Object: Picnic Basket



Scripture: "They all ate and were satisfied. They picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve full baskets." (Matthew 14:20 NASB)



-S- How many of you enjoy going on a picnic? Oh, so do I! Well, I brought my picnic basket this morning and we are going to use our imaginations and think of things that might be inside if we were going to have a picnic. Let's see, there would surely be sandwiches, chips, cookies, and some soft drinks. Can you think of anything I may have forgotten that you would enjoy eating on a picnic? *(Give the children time to tell what they would want to eat on the picnic.)*

If we had all that food in our basket we could have a pretty nice picnic. If we had all of the things we just talked about, **-S-** do you think there would be enough food for all the children here? What if everyone in our church came to our picnic **-S-** would there be enough food in our basket for the whole church? What if everyone in our town came to our picnic, **-S-** would there be enough food to feed the whole town? No way! You couldn't feed the whole town with just this little basket of food.

One day Jesus and His disciples wanted to have some time to relax. They got into a boat and went away to a quiet place to rest. When they arrived, **-S-** there were people there waiting for Jesus to teach them and heal the sick. Jesus had wanted to rest, but when he saw the people, he loved them so much that He forgot all about being tired. He healed the sick and taught the people about the kingdom of

heaven.

Soon it was time to eat. The disciples went to Jesus and asked Him to send the people away so that they could get something to eat.  "They don't need to go away," Jesus said, "you feed them."  "All we have is five loaves of bread and two fish," the disciples answered.

Jesus told the disciples to bring Him the loaves and fish and to tell everyone to sit down on the grass.  Jesus took the loaves and fish and looked up to heaven and gave thanks. Jesus then gave the food to the disciples to give to the people. Everyone ate until they were satisfied, which was rare in Jesus' time.  Then the disciples picked up the leftovers and there were twelve baskets full! The Bible tells us that there were five thousand men who were fed plus all the women and children. There were as many as 15,000 people.

Can you imagine feeding a whole town of people with one little picnic basket full of food? With Jesus, anything is possible!

Dear Jesus, help us to remember that when we give what we have to You, even a little bit is enough. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Slide Ordination of David Smith

DISCIPLE – SERVANT – DEACON

This morning we come together as a community of Christ to recognize and give thanks for what Christ has done for centuries and is doing in our community of Canyon Bible Church. It is Christ who calls men to serve His church and we recognize those God has called and He is already working through. The words I speak this morning directly to David echo the very words our Lord Jesus spoke and they apply to all of us. In the Gospel according to John, Jesus spoke to His disciples saying, **Slide** “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that your fruit would remain ...*” (John 15:16 NASB). David, you are not only Jesus’ fruit, but you are His fruit-bearer. As Jesus explained to his disciples and to all that followed, **Slide** “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” (John 12:23-24 NASB) We are Christ's fruit and His fruit-bearers if we are willing to take up our cross, die and are raised up with Him. Your call and your service to His church must always stand in the shadow of the cross of Christ.

The end for which you seek to bear fruit is not just for your own joy or even the benefit of the people you serve. But, life’s primary purpose is that God might be glorified and this brings great joy into our lives. In verse 8 Jesus says, **Slide** “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.” The Westminster Catechism brings this into focus by teaching us the chief end of man and the chief end of ministry is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Therefore Jesus’ glory and the glory of the Father are at stake in the

fruitfulness of your ministry.

David and Cheryl will you now please come forward. I have asked Cheryl to come forward with David. Cheryl has agreed to sacrifice her time with David in order that he may serve God and His church. She is willing to sacrifice because of her love for God, David and you. My brothers and sisters, let us now come forward as a community and lay hands upon David and Cheryl as I pray Psalm 67, knowing God hears and is fulfilling this prayer through David. Brothers if you will lay hands on David and sisters if you will lay hands on Cheryl - I will pray.

God we lift David up to You and Cheryl his faithful and true wife. We pray as a community that loves You Lord. We pray as King David prayed, ¹ “God be gracious to us and bless us, *and* cause His face to shine upon us. ²That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations. ³Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; For You will judge the peoples with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth. ⁵Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. ⁶The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. ⁷God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear (You almighty God).” May David be fruitful in his ministry of service and bring You, our God, glory. Amen.

My beloved, I present to you, your deacon, and David I present to you, your beloved co-heirs of Christ and our family whom you have committed to serve.