

Home Group Study Material for w/c 14th February 2011
Matthew 14:13-21 Giving away our lunch

Suggested questions for discussion – as usual please modify them as appropriate for your group

The aim of the study is to explore the truth that God wants us to be partners in the gospel. He wants us to use the gifts, talents and resources that he gives us for his glory and to continue Jesus' work of meeting every human need – Luke 4:18-19. When we give away our lunch God can turn our (small) contributions into something extraordinary.

1. *'Intro' question:* Where would your perfect place for a picnic be? What is your favourite picnic food? Who would you want to be there?

Please read Matthew 14:13-21

2. What was it about Jesus that made it so attractive for the crowds that day to want to be with him? What are the main things that attract you personally to him now?
3. Out of the many thousands present, only the little boy offered his lunch to Jesus. Why do you think no one else in the crowd offered their lunches? Would the situation have been any different today?
4. Do you agree with my statement in my sermon: "The message of the feeding of the 5000 is simple: having seen the example of the little boy we're to go and do likewise"?
5. What prevents us from giving away our lunch? Does size matter? Is a snack okay?
6. What do we lose as a result of failing to give away our lunch? Why is this so serious?
7. Should we put any limits on our giving? How do we know if we have given enough? What about the 'manner' of our giving?
8. Why is this story important for us at Southover today? How will we respond to the challenge personally?

Issued by Jeremy Bamber
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