Text: Luke 9:10-17
Theme: “OUR INADEQUACY, CHRIST’S ADEQUACY”

INTRODUCTION

Do you ever feel overwhelmed with all that needs to be done in serving the Lord?

How can one possibly meet the needs of this church, let alone the massive needs of this hurting world?

The miracle of feeding the 5,000 focuses on what it teaches those who serve Jesus about how He meets the needs of others through them.

Three things stand out in this story:

I. PEOPLE ARE NEEDY

A. The purpose of the trip across the Sea of Galilee was for REST,
   1. The fact so many people followed Jesus shows how NEEDY they were.
   2. Physical needs
      a. Healing
      b. Food
   3. Spiritual needs: Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God (vs. 11)

B. Bumper sticker: “Life is tough; then you die”

C. Problems people experience is entry point for ministry.

II. WE ARE INADEQUATE TO MEET THE OVERWHELMING NEEDS OF PEOPLE

A. Contrast between Jesus’ attitude toward the multitude and the disciples
   1. Jesus welcomed them (vs. 11)
   2. Disciples wanted the multitude sent away (vs. 12)

B. Jesus ridiculous request: “YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT” (vs. 13)

C. How Jesus could have performed this miracle
   1. He could have called down MANNA from heaven.
   2. He could have spoken the WORD and a loaf appear in each person’s hand
   3. He could have called angels to take the bread from His hand and given to each person.
   4. Jesus used the DISCIPLES to distribute the bread and fish.

D. The key? GIVE YOUR INADEQUATE RESOURCES TO JESUS.

III. CHRIST WILL GIVE US HIS ADEQUACY WHEN WE YIELD OUR INADEQUACY TO HIM TO USE AS HE PLEASES.

A. We must yield what we have, not what we don’t have.
B. We must yield our inadequacy to Him to use as He pleases
   1. Jesus BLESSES
   2. Jesus BREAKS
      a. It takes broken soil to produce a crop.
      b. It takes broken clouds to give rain.
      c. It takes broken grain to give bread
      d. It takes broken bread to give strength
      e. It takes a broken alabaster box to give forth perfume
      d. It takes Peter, weeping bitterly to return to greater power
   3. Jesus SATISFIES (9:16a-17a)
      a. Leftovers amounted to 12 baskets, one for each disciple
      b. Bread is symbolic of Christ (John 6:35)
         1) Burn-out happens if we try to meet human needs with inadequate abilities and resources.
         2) If we come away tired, but with the satisfaction of the fulness of Christ left over in our souls, then the Lord's blessing is on us.

CONCLUSION

1. God wants to use you to give the Bread of Life to those who are hungry.
2. Requirement: See how inadequate you are to do anything for the Lord.
3. Yield your inadequacy to Him to use as He pleases.
4. Needs of a hurting world will be met and you will have 12 basket of leftovers for yourself.