

Sermon Title: Serving When It's Inconvenient

Sermon Text: Matthew 14:14-21

Date: March 17, 2024

Read Matthew 14:14-21 together as a group.

1. Reflecting on the story shared about "pre-kids Tim" at the beach, have you ever experienced a situation where your desire for personal comfort clashed with an opportunity to serve someone else? How did you handle it, and what was the outcome?
2. Put yourself in the disciples' shoes when Jesus told them to feed the large crowd with only a boy's lunch. How do you relate to their response (see verse 17)? Can you recall a time when you also felt overwhelmed by a serving opportunity?
3. Discuss the common excuses and limitations people use when it comes to serving. Are there legitimate reasons for not embracing certain serving opportunities?
4. The sermon points out that God's direction often comes before His blessing. How does this concept resonate with you? Can you share a personal experience where you followed God's direction even when it seemed inconvenient or ineffective, and you later witnessed His blessing? (Compare Luke 5:4-7.)
5. Think about your current resources and abilities. In what ways could you bring what you have to Jesus for His use, even if it seems ineffective?
6. Is there some ministry you feel drawn to or interested in exploring further? Are there any specific ways we can come alongside you with support and encouragement to help you take your next step in serving?