



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - July 29, 2012

Sermon

"Little Things"

John 6:1-21 & Psalm 145:1-13

by Ted Good

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 7/30/12

John 6:1

Jesus went away from the crowds to pray and be by himself at times. Jesus recognized that self-care was important, especially given the enormity of his task! Jesus teaches us by example that we need to take care of ourselves, too. Time away from the routine and steady workload is imperative. This is why vacations are not only okay, but they are to be encouraged, at least according to Jesus' example. Are you taking time away this summer?

Tuesday 7/31/12

John 6:2

People can press in on us and be demanding even when we are trying to get away for some rest and relaxation. There will always be one more thing to do, one more person to see, or one more task to accomplish. Stop it! Take a break. You need it and so does your family and/or circle of friends. Make sure you give others a break when they need it, too.

Wednesday 8/1/12

John 6:3-9

Five loaves and two fish do not sound like a lot of food, especially when you're trying to feed over 5,000 people! Feeding a large group of people is much different than serving a meal for a family. Ingredients and portions are multiplied many times over to be sure that everyone has enough to eat. Jesus asked Philip where they could get enough bread to feed the people in the crowd and Andrew found a little boy who had a little food. Do you ever complain about having too little? What is too little? How do you know? I was one of the shortest students in my class all through school. I did not like being little or being made fun of for being so little. What is little? Is it just a comparison? When is a little enough? Can big things come even from little things?



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<p>Things to do this week in response to the sermon...</p> <p><i>What little things are all around you?</i></p> <p><i>What can God do with these little things?</i></p>	<p>Thursday 8/2/12 John 6:10-14</p> <p>God's ways are always bigger than our ways. God can take a little and make much! This is the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000. If God can feed 5,000 people with two fish and five loaves, imagine what God can do with just a little more! God doesn't see quantity; rather, God see quality. Even little things can have much potential. Perspective is everything. This day, try to imitate the mind of God that sees possibilities instead of limitations. What can you do from a little thing today?</p>
<p><i>Imagine the big possibilities that can come even from little things!</i></p>	<p>Friday 8/3/12 John 6:15-21</p> <p>A little boat on a big sea seems like a little thing until a big storm approaches! Circumstances can change perspective in a heartbeat! The disciples were weathering a storm on the Sea of Galilee and their tiny boat was being tossed to and fro. Then they looked out across the waves and saw their Master, Jesus, walking on the water! And believe it or not, this was no big thing to Jesus. Imagine that, walking on the water is a little thing for Jesus!</p>
	<p>Saturday 8/4/12 Psalm 145</p> <p>This is a psalm of comfort. How many times in life do we need to hear encouraging and comforting words? Life can throw lots of things our way, and sometimes these things are downright difficult and hard to take! I will confess that sometimes I even make a mountain out of molehill. Usually, in hindsight, I recognize that my so called "big dilemma" really wasn't a big thing. Not at all. We need to see things in a different perspective--from God's point of view. Then things don't look so big and overwhelming. God is able to flatten out the bumps in life or at least make them more manageable! Thank God for this today!</p>