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Finding Your Mission
Bursting the Bubble Retreat – Part 4
Lent 2011

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:13-14

I was designed to make a

"There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal." CS Lewis

THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

see Luke 9 [also Matthew 14, Mark 6, John 6]

"But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?" But He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they found out they said, "Five, and two fish." " Mark 6:37-38

"One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" John 6:8-9

We usually focus on what we _____;

Jesus focuses on what we _____.

"And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Matthew 14:17-18

TIME TO STEP OUT OF THE BUBBLE

1. DISCOVER _____

"For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more." Luke 12:48

a. _____

"My faith demands – this is not optional – my faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference." Jimmy Carter

b. _____

"And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey." Matthew 25:15

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant" 1 Corinthians 12:1

c. _____

"The bread which you keep belongs to the hungry; that coat which you preserve in your wardrobe, to the naked; those shoes which are rotting in your possession, to the shoeless; that gold which you have hidden in the ground, to the needy. Wherefore, as often as you are able to help others and refuse, so often did you do them wrong." St. Augustine

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched [made rich] in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

"Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase" Proverbs 3:9

2. DON'T EVER _____

*"God He never asks us to give what we don't have...
but He cannot use what we don't give"*

***"How many loaves do you have?
Bring them here to Me."***

My Action Item:

Quiet Time #2
Bursting the Bubble
Lent 2011

Take some time to pray about what has touched you the most during the retreat. Has God put a message on your heart? If so, what is it? How do you plan on living it out in your life?

Read and meditate on Luke 11:25-37.

1. What character in the passage do you relate to most? Why?
2. Think about this past week...
 - a. Did you encounter hurting people? Did you notice their hurt?
 - b. Identify all the hurting people that you crossed paths with (locally or globally) this week?
 - c. Who were they? Why were they hurting?
 - d. How did you respond to their hurt? Did you stop to help them?
 - e. Why did you respond that way?
3. Based on your answers to question 2, reconsider your answer to question 1. What character in the passage did you portray most during the past week? Why?
4. Are you surprised by your answers?
5. How does Christ define, demonstrate, or exemplify love in this passage? Also refer to Gal 6:2.
6. When was the last time you had the opportunity to demonstrate this kind of love? Did you?
7. How does Christ define neighbor in this passage? Note that Samaria and Jerusalem were distant from each other (especially, when walking was the only form of transportation), Samaritans and Jews did not socialize with each other, and Jews looked down upon Samaritans and treated them with contempt.

8. Who do you consider to be your neighbor? Who are you willing to love (i.e., help or carry their burden)? Who are you not willing to love? Why?

Read and meditate on Matthew 22:34 -40

9. What did the lawyer ask Jesus?
10. What question did Jesus answer?
11. Based on this passage, can the love of God and neighbor be separated? Can you do one without the other?

Read and meditate on 2 Cor 8:8-15

12. Why does poverty (material, emotional, spiritual, or physical) exist? What is the cause of poverty?
13. What demonstrates the sincerity of your love?
14. How can you help relieve the problems of poverty? How can your abundance (your time, treasures (i.e. money or possessions), and talents (i.e. gifts or energy)) supply the lack of others? Pray and ask God how he wants you to use your abundance to supply the lack of others. Write down at least one practical way that you will use your abundance to supply the lack of others after you leave this retreat.