

Sharing the Bounty: Stories from the Good News Garden Movement Reflection Guide



Note: This guide can be used for personal reflection or within the context of a small group, after you have watched the accompanying short film.

READ

John 6:1-13

CONSIDER

I love that the writer of John notes that Jesus notices that it is mealtime. Which to me implies that Jesus was hungry. Which is perhaps the most common of all human experiences. And in typical Jesus-fashion, he wasn't just worried about his hunger—he was concerned for the crowds as well. Just like a youth group leader driving a busy load of middle school kids to camp, Jesus recognized the importance of a good picnic lunch break. I also love that it is a kid whose lunch Jesus uses to feed the crowd. A kid who was—for whatever reason—more prepared for the day's adventures than the adults. A kid who was also willing to share, modeling an attitude of abundance and faith instead of scarcity and resignation—which is more than we can say for the disciples.

REFLECT

1. In both the story of the feeding of the 5,000, and the story of the Good News Garden at Grace, we find young people leading the way. What room do you or your church make for the voices of youth? Who is listening to their concerns and ideas? What are they saying?
2. How could you or your parish plant more, pray more, and proclaim the Good News of God in Christ more through the gifts of your hands and your land? If you look at your assets with the eyes of a child, what possibilities do you see?

PRAY

For the Conservation of Natural Resources

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 827)