



Small Group Discussion Notes
Multiply – Week 4
Multiplying Care and Compassion
October 18, 2026
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Warm Up

Share a time when someone extended care and compassion to you.

Digging Deeper

READ John 6:1-15 (also feel free to read, Matt. 14:13-21, Mark 6:32-44, Luke 9:10-17 for other tellings of this story)

Use the following inductive Bible study steps to explore this passage.

1. Observe – What do you notice in the text...What is the context? What is happening? Who are the characters? What ideas or words are being repeated? Spend time asking these types of questions
2. Interpret – What is being said in the text...What is being communicated? Why is this passage important? What is the meaning of this passage? Take time to ask questions that go beyond observation and dig deeper into the text.
3. Apply – What do I do with this information...How does this impact my life? How does this impact my understanding of who God is? What can I take from this text and apply to my daily circumstances? Ask questions that get personal and help you apply what you have learned.

Put yourself in their shoes...

What do you think might have been going through Philip's mind when Jesus asked him where they should buy bread for so many people?

What do you think led Andrew to offer the boy's loaves and fish?

How do you think the boy felt about having his own food offered up to feed others?

Jesus had a plan (v. 6), but he included his disciples in the working out of his plan. Does the reality that God desires to use us to extend care and compassion to others, excite or scare you?

Jesus' desire to feed the thousands of people who had gathered was a thoughtful act of care and compassion. Jesus identified a need and sought to meet it. What other examples in scripture can you think of where Jesus did this? What examples can you think of in scripture where people besides Jesus demonstrated care and compassion?

After feeding the people with the loaves and fish, there were leftovers. What does this say about God's ability to provide, even when we don't think we are enough OR that what we have is enough?

Next Steps

Jesus used what the boy had to meet a need. How have you seen God use what you have to demonstrate care and compassion to others?

How open are you to being used by God to compassionately care for those around you who are in need?

What scares you or holds you back from being used by God to extend care and compassion to people?

What are you inclined to hold on to too tightly to, and how might releasing your grip allow you to be used by God to multiply kingdom impact in caring and compassionate ways?

Share a characteristic, skill, resource, etc. (this could be the same thing or something different from the previous question) that you know you could use to demonstrate care and compassion to others in a way that would multiply kingdom impact.

What might be a tangible way your group could use what you collectively have to care for or extend compassion to a person, family, or group of people in our community?

Final Thoughts

At times we can operate with a scarcity mindset, thinking we need to protect and preserve what we have. However, stories like this remind us that when we submit to Christ, we can operate from a place of abundance. He is faithful to use what we have to multiply kingdom impact and meet our needs all at the same time.