From BREAD and CUP to FAITH and GIVING

In Remembrance of Me

Based on Mark 6.30-44

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Whenever we celebrate communion, we share tidbits about the last meal Jesus had with his friends. After breaking the bread and pouring the cup, Jesus tells his friends to eat and drink "in remembrance of me." And that's what we do whenever we share in that sacred meal these 2,000+ years later.

My remembrances have typically included the post-supper betrayal and drawn-out drama leading to Jesus' death aswell as the resurrection and joyous reunion with his friends. Recently I've come to recognize a tiny-yet-crucial logical error that being on this side of history facilitated. My recollections include happenings that hadn't yet occurred when Jesus invited his friends to remember.

It's more likely that Jesus wanted them to remember moments like they had with the crowd of 5,000+ people. As Jesus generously gave of himself to fill their spiritual hunger, their physical hunger kicked in. Understandably, the disciples could only see scarcity with their few resources against this large logistical nightmare.

Jesus, however, saw abundance. He chose generosity fueled by innovative thinking and actions. He invited them to consider what was already available and reconfigure their structure to make the miraculous (re)distribution of food possible so that everyone could eat satisfyingly and have leftovers. That's what the disciples would've remembered.

Anytime we approach the sacred meal, let Jesus' generosity also flood our remembrances of him so that our very lives might also be transformed and inspired to innovate our thinking and actions. Indeed, there is enough and so much more for all of us!

Consider Your Pledge as a Percent of Your Monthly Income

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1,042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1,250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1,667

On average, American's give 2% of their income to charity. Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.

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