

WARMING UP

1. What stands out to you about the account of the feeding of the 5000? Do you have any childhood memories of hearing this Bible story?

DIGGING IN

What must you do with who he is?

2. *Be on mission (9:10-11)*. What is Jesus' mission according to these verses? What is our mission as his followers? Why is it essential to be engaged in the life of the church in order to not miss out on what God is doing? What does it mean to fully participate at Harvest? To what degree are you engaged?
3. *See the needs (9:12)*. Make a list of the diverse needs around us today. (Think in terms of physical, emotional, and spiritual categories.) How does Luke 4:18-19 speak to this? What is your honest response to the depth of need around you? Is there a particular need that you feel called to respond to? How so?
4. *Bring what you have (9:13)*. How does Jesus' statement, "You give them something to eat," provoke a crisis for the disciples? What does he want them to realize? What happens when you bring what you have and add it to what everyone else has? What has God given to you to be used in accomplishing his purposes?
5. *Do what he says (9:14-15)*. What are some of the reasons why we should do whatever God says? In what situations do you find obedience most difficult? Why? How have you found the principle "blessing follows obedience" to be true in your life?
6. *Expect the unexpected (9:16-17)*. When Jesus feeds the 5000, he foreshadows two other meals: the Lord's Table (communion) and the Messianic Banquet (marriage supper of the Lamb). How so? The text says the people were "satisfied." How is this God's heart for you in every way?

BREAKING OUT

7. How are you being challenged to act differently because of this message? What is God speaking to you? Which point(s) intersects with your heart the most? How can you encourage one another to respond appropriately?