

. . . Greetings to all who are in tune with The Mission Trail broadcast today. It affords me great joy to be back with you again.

I have a text found in I Chronicles 29:5 which I would like to bring you at this time.

"And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

This is a question David asked when preparations were being made for King Solomon to build the great and magnificent temple of the Lord. Now, if this was an important question in that day, I am sure it is even more so in this modern 20th century! "And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?"

You may ask yourself what have I that God can use? Well, simply this; God is looking for consecrated material to use in His great work, and if you are wholly dedicated to Him, He can and will take and use you for his glory. Let us look at the example of the miracle of the loaves and fishes in St. John the 6th chapter and beginning at the 5th verse.

"When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Phillip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Phillip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world."

Now notice in verse 9 that there was a lad who had five barley loaves and two small fishes. In my mind I can visualize this young boy's mother hurriedly preparing him a little lunch that morning when he started out to follow Jesus. She may not have had much to give him for a lunch but noticed the small loaves of bread and the two small fishes which were readily available. These were placed together and away the lad went to follow the Master.

Now, we are coming to the important part of this lesson. The lad could have refused to offer his lunch to be divided with others, and he would have had an ample supply of food for himself until he reached home again. He had been more thoughtful than many of the others who had brought nothing at all to eat. If this lad had thought that he was being deprived of his lunch which he had been so careful to bring along in the midst of the great crowd which was following Jesus in that day of long ago, he might have sat down and cried about it when Andrew, Simon Peter's brother took the loaves and fishes to bring them to the Master.

