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XVIII Sunday in OT: Give Them Some Food Yourselfes

“When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, ‘This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said to them, ‘There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.’” (Mt 14: 14-16)

This week’s Gospel suggests, as a reference for our life, the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves of bread and fish. We have chosen from this beautiful account the phrase that Christ addressed to His disciples in reference to the crowd that was hungry: “Give them some food yourselves.” This is also a valid mandate today for there are multitudes that are still hungry.

Like those astonished apostles, we often reply by saying that we do not have enough to fulfill that mandate. We are not rich. We have no influence in important political decisions. We cannot create jobs. However, the Lord is willing to work miracles as long as we do something, as long as we simply offer the little we have.

Therefore, let’s not focus so much on the immensity of the needs, but on what we can do. Mother Teresa said that what we can do is very little, but that little is what gives meaning to our lives. It will be a drop of water in the desert, but at least it will have quenched somebody’s thirst.

Purpose: Examine the possibilities that you have to help your neighbor: money, time, or culture. Make concrete goals and at the end of the week, review what you have done.

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