

This past weekend, my family and I went to some very dear friends house for a little vacation. They are pastors in Oklahoma. Last time we went to their home Graham exclaimed “I wish we could live here forever!” Of course, we were on itineration, going from hotel to hotel, no kids he could play with – and then we end up in our friends house for an entire week, with their kids, and it truly felt like one big happy family! Those moments come periodically as MKs, and we need to make the most of them.

Yesterday he asked Dargan and I to “teach” his Sunday School class. It ended up only being about 20 minutes of actual lesson time, which was fine. However, while we were waiting to be introduced my mind was wandering (as it tends to do). I started to think about children in the Bible. Where do we see kids in the Gospels? Of course we all know about the times where Christ called the kids to him, and he made statements like “Let the little children come to me, and do nothing to hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” (Matthew 19:14) The kids seemed to be in the background. Rarely do we see them actually doing anything of importance. I started to wonder, where do we see kids involved in ministering? You know that our passion is to help MKs sense that they are a part of missions, a part of the calling, and a minister with their families. In the New Testament we see that God does a lot of work through lay people, so we know that one doesn’t have to be “ordained” to be a minister/missionary in God’s eyes!

As I was thinking about kids involved in ministry, the only passage of the Gospels that came to my mind was the passage that describes where Christ fed the five thousand people with only “five small loaves and two small fish”. Simon, Peter’s brother stated “Here’s a boy with five small loaves and two small fish...” We see here a boy, probably under 12 years old, with nothing but his own lunch! What I want to impress to each of you is that this boy, under normal circumstances, had nothing to offer anyone. He was of insignificance. He was seemingly a blip on the screen. **However, he had something to offer!** He didn’t have much, but he had fish and bread. The key is that he was willing to give up his own possessions for the good of many! Because that little boy was willing to give ALL that he had, the people didn’t have to go hungry.

While you may feel like you don’t have much to offer. You may feel like an insignificant blip on the screen of missions – EVEN YOU have something to offer. The key is looking deep inside ourselves and saying “God, what do you want of me?” We may be holding something in our hands (or in our hearts) that God wants to use. Like this little boy, we have to be willing to give it away! That may be difficult. It may leave us with nothing. God wants each of us to be involved in feeding this world with the Bread of Life.

When I think of what God has given each of us, it goes way beyond physical possessions. My mind goes automatically to kids that have a joyful spirit. They allow God’s Spirit to be alive in them, and they bring His joy wherever they go! We can all ask God to allow His Spirit to be alive inside of us. I also think of some MKs that have taught themselves how to do things like puppets, or lead worship, or even babysitting for a local pastor. The key is that they want to give back to God. When we give of ourselves to God, be prepared to see how God blesses! The boy had to give that little bit up to see God do a

HUGE miracle! When we learn to release things from our hands and our lives to a living Jesus, we can prepare ourselves to see His miraculous hand at work!

What are you holding in your hands? Would you like to see God do a miracle around you? It simply takes opening up our hands and our hearts, and saying “Here you are Jesus, it is all yours.” Watch the miracles that God will do through you!