



Key References:

Luke 8:45–50 (ESV) – And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!”⁴⁶ But Jesus said, “Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me.”⁴⁷ And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed.⁴⁸ And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”⁴⁹ While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler’s house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.”⁵⁰ But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.”

“A miracle is a divine intervention into, an interruption of, the regular course of the world that produces a purposeful but unusual event that would not have occurred otherwise.” – Norman Geisler

Matthew 13:8 (ESV) – Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

1 Samuel 16:7 (ESV) – For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

Acts 4:13 (ESV) – Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Matthew 14:17–20 (ESV) – They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.”¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.”¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied.

1 – THE PACE OF JESUS

Andy started by talking about modern-day productivity and how the inventions of the last 150 years had created an artificial pace-of-life far different from that of Jesus’. **If you were to walk with Jesus what would be contrasting with our way of living? What kind of driver would he be?**

Throughout the gospels we see crowds flocking to Jesus. **How would you describe the busyness of Jesus? Was he a productive person?**

2 – INTERRUPTING JESUS

How well do you deal with interruptions? When’s your least favourite time to be interrupted?

Read Luke 8:40-50. **How does Jesus’ view of interruptions differ from our own? What happens when we are too busy for God’s interruptions?**

Read the quote by Norman Geisler. **If miracles are disruptions of the natural order, how do we need to be available when interruptions come?**

Andy said we need to; STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN to be affective for Jesus. **Can you explain this? How do we see Jesus do it? What stories do you have where the Holy Spirit has brought someone to your attention?**

3 – THE READINESS OF SOMEONES HEART

Andy brought up the idea of a traffic light representing the readiness of people to respond to the gospel message. **What did the RED, AMBER & GREEN lights represent? How can people sitting at the red-light of the gospel often take up too much of our attention?**

How does this relate to the parable in Matthew 13:2-9? How can seeing the readiness of someone’s heart help us share the gospel like Jesus?

4 – OUR LIMITATIONS, HIS MULTIPLICATIONS

We all want to be effective for God’s Kingdom. However, we can feel like we don’t have the time, the tools, the abilities, or the skills. **How does 1 Corinthians 1:27-29, 2 Corinthians 12:9 and Acts 4:13 all speak to this?**

Read Matthew 14:14-20. **How does Jesus deal with our limited resources?**

Out of the feeding of the 5,000 Andy identified 4-things for us to do in our calling to Nanaimo. 1) Look at people with compassion; 2) Bring our little to Jesus; 3) Ask for God’s blessing; 4) Expect it to be more than enough. **How might we see Nanaimo changed if we followed Jesus’ example? In what area do you think God is asking for your five-loaves + two-fish?**