**Generosity**

Week 4 Preaching Resources

**Scripture:** John 6:1-15

**Focus:** Everyone has a gift

**Me:** Tell a story about a time when you underestimated your (or someone else’s) potential. You might tell a story from your childhood or of students in your church. Somewhere in your story, or at the end, include: “I didn’t think it was possible.”

**We:** We’ve all felt overwhelmed by the need. We’ve wanted to quit and give up because we couldn’t do enough or make a difference. Use a church or community example, perhaps of a building project, the nation’s drug crisis, or the church budget. Name an overwhelming need in your community. Ask, “Could we have underestimated the possibility?”

**God:** You could transition by saying, “God’s Word has a powerful story about when the disciples were confronted by an impossible task.” Three main points about this scripture are:

1. We’re not going home - God commands us: “you feed them”
2. Everyone has a gift (little boy)
3. God multiplies the gift

**You:** Maybe be direct and say: “God has blessed you with many gifts. Some we see, others we may not notice. But when you offer them, God is able to multiply them. Kingwood Church is one example. They had nine people in worship but donated enough for 200 students to receive scholarships and experience the love of Jesus at IGNITE. IGNITE is a weekend youth conference in GNJ that has hosted over 5,000 students in the last five years. GNJ’s Next Generation Ministries is providing hope thanks to the gifts of finances, talents and time of pastors, youth leaders and more. Each of us has something to offer.”

**We:** When we all give our gifts together, God does great things. The world is hungry. Don’t underestimate your contribution. Do you see the need in our communities? In Africa? After the hurricanes? For the Next Generation of disciples? Today we give together!