

Luke 9:12-17

Does God have problems?

¹² Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to Him and said, 'Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here.'

¹³ He replied, 'You give them something to eat.' They answered, 'We have only five loaves of bread and two fish – unless we go and buy food for all this crowd.' ¹⁴ (About five thousand men were there.) He said to His disciples, 'Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each.'

¹⁵ The disciples did so, and everyone sat down.

¹⁶ Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He spoke a blessing and broke them.

Then He gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. ¹⁷ They all ate and were satisfied and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

What is a Problem? Any event that is unforeseen, for which I am unprepared, which causes distress, is difficult to resolve

1. Nothing I can do!

Disciples' solution: Make it

A better prayer: Ephesians 1:17-19

Jesus' solution: solve it, here.

2. What can I do?

Disciples' expectation: enough

Jesus' expectation: enough

3. What will I do?

Sharing with Heaven:

. a blessing

Blessing is telling a person (or object, or circumstance) what will be the outcome of what you are praying.

I can even bless

Pray: talking to God on behalf of someone.

Bless: telling someone the outcome of what you are praying for them.

It also imparts God's grace into the life of the one who is blessed.

Mk.10:15-16, Lk.24:50, Ps103:2, 1Cor10:16

Priestly blessing: Numbers 6:23-27

. a blessing

John 13:17, 1 Cor.9:23, 2 Cor.9:8

Blessed, to be a blessing!

Sharing on Earth:

My prayer priorities for the week beginning 7 July 2019

Today's worship through music

Worthy of all praise | I believe in Jesus | I want to praise You, Lord | For by grace | Make me a channel of blessing | Stand and bless the Lord | In His time | Thanksgiving

Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion

1. When does an object, an event, or a person become a problem?
2. List 3 reasons why you think God lets us have problems.
3. Why should a blessing be spoken aloud, rather than just thought?
4. There are multiple examples of blessings bestowed, but without any record of what was actually said (eg. Mark 10:15-16, & Luke 24:50). Why do you think the words said were not recorded?
5. In the priestly blessing (Numbers 6:23-27), which is your favourite line, and why?
6. Read John 13:17. How can we be blessed if no blessing is spoken?
7. What is a key purpose of blessings (2 Corinthians 9:8)?

Watch it again: www.lifechurchpanania.org [then select Full Screen]
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