



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	The Boy Who Spoke Without Words	SPEAKER	Elder Goh Hock Chye
THEME	Faith For Every Season	DATE	22 & 23 Nov 2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The feeding of the five thousand is one of the miracles recorded in all four gospels. It began with one simple act: a young boy who willingly gave up his lunch. In this passage, Jesus turned to Philip and asked where they could buy bread to feed the crowd. Philip answered, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite” (John 6:5). Elder Hock Chye highlighted three important lessons that we can learn and apply in our lives today.

THREE LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM THIS MIRACLE

1) Lesson from Philip: Do not see what you do not have as important to Serve the Lord

When asked by Jesus, Philip immediately calculated the cost and concluded that there was not enough money or food to meet the need. His focus was on what was lacking instead of on the God who is our Provider.

A contrasting example is David facing Goliath (1 Samuel 17: 37). David’s eyes were on God, not on the giant before him. A lesson - faith helps us to see God; fear only magnifies the giant.

2) Lesson from Andrew: Do not doubt what you have as insufficient to Serve the Lord

Andrew noticed the boy who had five loaves and two fishes and brought him to Jesus because he initially saw the possibility of what was available. But doubt quickly crept in, and he questioned how such a small offering could make any difference.

We often feel the same – believing our skills, abilities or resources are too small or insignificant for God’s work, especially when the needs seem overwhelming. Elder Hock Chye reminded us that what may be insufficient in our hands, is more than enough in God’s hands. The miracle happened not because the gift was large, but it was given. Jesus did not ask if it was enough; He only asked if was available. Once placed in Jesus’ hands, it became more than sufficient.

God does not require much, only a willing heart that brings what we have before Him.

3) Lesson from the nameless boy: Do not withhold what you have to serve the Lord

The small act of giving up his lunch became the seed of one of Jesus' greatest miracle. The boy offered what he had willingly, and in doing so, he saw his simple offering transformed – feeding thousands with twelve baskets of leftovers gathered.

Small acts and hidden sacrifices, when placed in God's hands, turn availability into abundance. God is not looking for the spectacular; He is looking for hearts willing to surrender what we have.

CONCLUSION

When we focus on God instead of what we lack, faith helps us to see God. God does not require much except for a willing heart that we bring before Him. With hearts that are willing and surrendered, will we respond as the prophets and servants of old did with the declaration, “**Here I am**” (Hebrew: Hineni), a statement of total availability and surrender? (i) Isaiah (Isa 6:8-9); (ii) Samuel (1 Samuel 3:4); (iii) Abraham (Genesis 22:1); and (iv) Moses (Exod 3:4).

May we too come before the Lord with that same posture of readiness and surrender because when we do, God will say “Hineni” (Isa 58:9) back to us.

QUESTIONS

1. Looking at Philip's response: In what areas of your life or ministry do you tend to focus more on what you lack rather than on God's ability to provide? What might it look like for you to shift your focus toward God's sufficiency this week?

2. Considering Andrew's doubt: Is there something you currently have – skills, time, resources that you have been hesitant to offer to God because it feels "too small"? What step/s can you take to place it in God's hands and trust Him for the outcome?

3. Learning from the boy's willing heart: What is one area of your life where God may be prompting you to respond? How can you avail yourself to say "here I am"?