<u>Series</u>: You Asked for It! <u>Title</u>: God Delights in Small Offerings <u>Text</u>: (John 6:1-13)

Pastor Mix, How Can I possibly make any difference. I am just one person, what does it matter whether I am faithful, or if I serve? I am nothing special.

Futility and Apathy cause neglect of God's service. *God Delights in Small Offerings*

I. <u>A Small Offering in Faith</u>: (John 6:1-13) (John 6:9) He gave what he had to the Master. (Matt 14:14-21)(Mk 6:34-41) The Disciple's Dinner

It's not about WHAT he gave, but WHO he gave it too: God delights in small offerings in Faith.

- (Heb 11:1) Explain faith as taking God at his word without the necessity of physical proof.
- (Heb 11:6) it is Imperative Consequently, it doesn't have to be huge! Because the Object our Faith is in, IS HUGE!
- (Lk 17:6) "*Mustard Seed*" Small, but genuine (Matt 13:31-32) Small, but powerful.
- (Lk 18:15-17) "*Child like*" Complete belief, no doubt. God said it, and that settles it with kids!
- (Matt 19:14) "of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven"

Kids get God. They totally get it and are cool with the fact that there is a person you can go to with all the answers and all the stuff!

<u>We need to stop being all grown up</u>: when it comes to God God delights in small offerings in Faith.

We become God's child just like they became ours: Birth

(1 Jn 5:1) – God uses child birth to explain how we become His child! (Mark 10:13-15) *We come to God like a little child.* Our Relationship with God starts with a little offering of faith *"God its me, You're Right, I am a sinner, I believe you died for me. Please SAVE ME."* **Thats it, Welcome to the family!**

We need to trust God like our kid's trust us: (Lk 18:16)

<u>Kids get God</u>. They don't check the fridge every day They don't ask to see my bank statements. They know Dad's gonna take care of us.

(Ps 34:10) The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

"Just go to the bank and get more!" "Just use that card" (Ps 50:10) For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

Ask and ye shall receive: Matt 7:7-11

<u>Illus</u>: *My kids are always telling me what they want for their birthday or Christmas; even in Jan –July*

Stop being all grown up in your prayer life.

Pray like children pray, they believe it is going to happen.
(Matt 21:22) And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, <u>believing</u>, ye shall receive. **Daddy, Daddy, Daddy, Dad, Dad, Dad, Dad,**In Arkansas there was a Little Ceasar's on the way home from church. And they would begin to Suplicatate!!!
Pizza, PIzza, PIZZa, PIZZA, Annoying as it may be, they get it LK 18:5-8 * Verse 7 * "Of Such is the Kingdom of God"
We need to stop being all grown up: when it comes to God We adults make it so complicated.

God delights in little offerings of Faith!

Faith is not about how Big we are spiritually.

Faith is about how Big God is.

(2 Chron 16:9) God wants to make Himself Real to you. God is looking for opportunities to show himself strong

(Luke 12:29-32) God will take care of you.

What you have here is so much less & puny compared to what He has in store for us next.

God Delights in small offerings of Faith!

II. God Delights in A Small Offering of Love: (Jn 6:9)

The little lad saw a need and did what he could. <u>Illus</u>: Oh if I only could win the Power Ball!

If you wont give God what little you have, you wont either if you had millions.

You are not responsible for the Gifts & Talents you don't have *The boy saw a need and gave what he had.*

There is similar story of a women who wept at Jesus feet, who gave what she had to Jesus. (Mk 14:3-9) "She hath done what she could." She knew who He was!

She knew who He was: She knew what He was going to do! (Rom 5:8, 1 Jn 4:9-10) To die in our place!

She did what she could to be a part of God's Plan!

I don't like that you have to die for me. I don't like that it's my sin that sent you to the cross. I don't like that it's my fault you have to die. I don't like it that you have to take my place. I don't like it, but if you have to go, I want to be a part of your plan!

(Lk 19:10) Seek and to save the lost!

(Ezek 33:11-12A) You can't work your way there! (John 3:16-17) God's plan was for that everyone to be saved! (2 Pet 3:9)

Have you done what you could? Have yo believed on Jesus? (Acts 16:31) *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!"*

Have you done what you could? Anybody can believe! (Rom 3:22)

After Salvation, Your Service to Jesus will be <u>Remembered</u>! (MK 14:9a) No Service to we do for God is ever unnoticed or forgotten.

God delights in small offerings of love. (John 13:34-35) *I am just 1 person, what difference could I possibly make?* (Matt 10:42) *a cup of cold water only*

Ron Hall - *A Feeble attempt is better than no attempt.* <u>*Illus:*</u> Star Fish. It mattered to this one! **Your Service to Jesus will be** <u>**Remembered**</u>!

Your service to Jesus will be <u>Rewarded</u>! (Mk 14:9b) (John 14:15) *If ye love me, keep my commandments. God Delights in Small Offerings of Faith! God Delights in Small Offering of Love!*

III. God Delights in Small offering of Devotion: (John 6:9,11-12) *He didn't just give WHAT he had, he gave ALL he had.* (Lk 21:1-4) The Widow's Mites *Its not about equal giving amounts, its about equal sacrifice. The widow gave all of what she had.*

How could they do that?

(2 Cor 8:1-5) "Gave their own selves first." God doesn't want your STUFF, He wants YOU!

Stuff comes and goes, Won and Lost (Temporal) (Mark 12:41-44) Widows Mite - "*All her Living*"

The Lad gave ALL he had, W/O RESERVATION

(John 6:9b) "but what are they among so many?" The Disciples thought, "Oh, How Cute." The Boy knew WHO he was giving it to! He gave it in Faith, He gave it in Love.
Jesus Blessed It! Vs 11a "given thanks"

Jesus Broke It! Vs 11b "he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down;" Jesus Boosted it! Vs 12a When they were filled - 12 baskets One Offering, many were supplied.

Our Offerings are not too small, Our Love is too small.

We all have different talents, Only you can give YOU! Your time is every bit as important as the president's time. Your devotion is just as important to God as the Apostle Paul *The Lad gave ALL he had, W/O RESERVATION* He held NOTHING BACK.

God Delights in Small Offerings of Faith! God Delights in Small Offering of Love! God Delights in Small Offerings of Devotion!

God Delights in Small Offerings of Hope!

The Boy had no promise of a reward. He knew nothing of the *"promises"* of Christ!

So why do we hold back?

Why don't we commit our Faith, Love, Devotion, and Hope unto Him.

God doesn't want our STUFF, God wants YOU!

<u>*Illus: Sara doesn't like me to buy her flowers b/c they fade and die.*</u>

I like to buy her things because they are a symbol of my love. They are a symbol that she already has my love.

The Lad's Lunch, The Woman's box, The Widow's Mite These were symbols that God already had them.

Not symbolized by the Monetary Value of it, but by the sacrifice of giving it. AND by the attitude in which they were given.

(John 6:12-13) Jesus probably made the disciples march home with the boy as a lesson in Hope.

God Delights in Small Offerings of Faith! So BELIEVE Him!
God Delights in Small Offering of Love! So SERVE Him!
God Delights in Small Offerings of Devotion!

So SELLOUT, and stop putting Conditions on Him! *God Delights in Small Offerings of Hope!* So TRUST Him!