

Great Things He Has Done

(II Kings 8:4b)

Session 3 - Give Them Something to Eat

Talkback with Pastor Candy

- 1) This scene reveals much about the nature of God when confronted by *famine* (v.38). Who is this God? When the people of God are aware of famine, what does the Lord require of us? What power has God given us to purify and multiply food today?

Go Deeper

- 2) The scene in Exodus 16:1-30 provides context for Elisha's ministry of food-provision in Gilgal. What does that narrative suggest about God's intention to provide the hungry with *as much as each of them needed* (v. 18b)? What does it reveal about the human propensity to hoard food for ourselves (v. 20)? Talk about your church's hunger ministries today. How do those ministries invite folks to personal faith in God (v. 12b)?

Great Things in the Church

- 3) Review Mark 8:1-9. Talk about Jesus' compassion for the hungry, and the disciples' skepticism about the ability to satisfy all in the crowd. What's important about the detail mentioning some food *left over* (v. 8)? Look for other clues in the Gospels (Matthew 14:14-21, 15:32-38, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-14) about the Church's imperative to *Serve the People and Let them Eat*.

Get Me a Musician

- 4) Read or sing through hymn #427 ("Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life") in the United Methodist Hymnal. How does this hymn amplify the theme of today's lesson? Which particular lines or phrases speak to you?

"While the musician was playing, the power of the Lord came on him" (II Kings 3:15b)