Connect Group Meeting # 7 Curriculum- October 25th to November 1st

FOOD TIME: (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

MEETING TIME: (45 minutes)
As we are going to read in the passage this week, we see that Jesus has the attention of not just the Jewish leaders but also the people. They are starting to hear of His works, and they want to see the Messiah. That leads to this multitude coming to hear Jesus speak, and this leads to the feeding of the five thousand. To put into perspective, it says five thousand men, which also means that the number of people is even more, as there were also women and children. With five loaves of bread and two fish, He fed probably more than ten thousand people. We also see this moment of testing to the disciples. He inquires upon Philip who He tests. This is a moving piece of Scripture, as Christ calls on faithfulness in the moment. He calls on a trusting of what He can do in seemingly impossible moments. As we get into discussion this week, think about that faithfulness that Christ calls for here.

READ John 6:1-14
1 After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias 2 Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. 3 And Jesus went on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. 4 Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. 5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 But this He said to test him, for He himself knew what He would do. 7 Philip answered Him, 'Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" 10 Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. 14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

FACILITATE Discussion Questions
1. Why do you think Jesus tested Philip in asking about the bread?
2. How can we relate this to our faith?
3. What is the importance of Jesus leaving so much food after everyone ate?
4. How can this passage show us how Christ still works for us today?

PRAY- Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.

APPLICATION- We see that faithfulness play out. As the disciples listen and obey the commands of Jesus, we see that He can do all things. The key to it is that when we put our faithfulness unto Him, He provides so much more than we could ever think of. There are times in our lives when all we can do is put our faith in Jesus, and He will answer. As an application this week, think about a part of your life where you need to trust in the Lord more. Ask yourself, how can I give this to Christ in a better way? We often struggle because we think that we are in control of what is happening and we forget to let God be in control. And when it does not work for us, we are left with a choice to surrender it to the Lord, or to try and hold on tighter.