**There is a Leader in the Lad**

**John 6:9**

There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

It is important to look at the components of leadership in this lad. We see the leadership lessons in Jesus. Perhaps, we see them in the disciples.

* Rarely do we look at a character the Bible says less than a handful of words about.
* The Bible says nothing about his personality, giftings, spirituality, or work habits.
* We know very little about him.
* We know nothing about his family. He could have come from a good family or a bad family. Perhaps his mom or dad made his lunch. For all we know, he made his own lunch. We don’t know if his family was a family of faith. Maybe they were devout Christians, but it is possible they were not the least bit concerned about this Rabbi.
* We don’t know what this Lad became in the future or what his history was like.

The Bible only says twenty-one words about the lad. John is the only Gospel writer to mention that this miracle came through the hands of the lad.

Here are some things “the Lad” teaches us about leadership.

**A. Geography Matters**

1. There is a Lad here.
2. Sometimes the victory is surviving the season. I’m here!

**B. It’s Important to Focus on What You Have**

1. The focus was on what he had, not on what was missing!
2. The Word says “God will bless the works of your hands…” - What you have (in your hands)
3. Stop lamenting what you do not have and start celebrating what you do have.

**C. Embrace That We Are Not Enough on Our Own**

1. The Lad had to embrace the fact that he was not enough.
2. What is two small fish and five loaves without God in the equation?
3. I’m not enough without the involvement of Christ.

**D. Trust Your Leadership**

1. The Bible doesn’t say he put his lunch in the hands of Jesus.
2. The Lad put his lunch in the hands of the ministry (disciples).
3. You need spiritual leadership to connect you to your purpose.

**E. Do Not Be Afraid of Being Misunderstood**

1. The Lad had to get over the fear of being misunderstood by friends.
2. There had to be more than one lad who had the forethought to pack a lunch. Yet, something kept them from getting out of their company of fifty and giving their lunch.
3. I wonder if fear of the ostracism of a friend kept them from making a move toward being the conduit for a miracle.
4. The Lad wanted to be part of a miracle more than he feared rejection.

**F. Don’t Let Your Environment Keep You from the Harvest**

1. Jesus asked the disciples how to feed the multitude.
2. The disciples’ answer was to send them into nearby towns to get food and lodging for “we are in a desert place.”
3. The environment should never be the excuse to keep your hands out of the harvest.

**G. Bring Your Gift on Your Own (?)**

1. He brought his gift to the disciples. He sought them out (the disciples didn’t seek him out).
2. “There is a Lad here.” Don’t be offended if the leadership doesn’t come looking for you to be the solution to the problem.
3. The Lad didn't wait on someone to pilfer through his lunch pail to see what he had to offer.
4. There were others who had lunches but never found a willingness to give them to the disciples.
5. The Lad was thinking about the multitude above his own personal gain.
6. God is looking for availability.

**H.** **The Anomaly**

1. It seems Jesus is just wasting time.
2. It seems He is asking useless questions.
3. How do we feed all these people?
4. How much money do we have?
5. Why is 200 pennyworth not enough but 5 loaves and 2 fish are?
6. (John 6) Jesus knew what he was going to do all the time.
   1. He’s waiting on the lad
   2. He’s waiting on the lad to put what he has in His hands…
7. The Disciples limited God based on environment…
   1. ”We are in a desert place...”
   2. The crowd is 10,000-15000 people deep
8. Jesus is waiting on someone to make up their mind
9. He’s waiting on you
10. Take that bold step.
    1. He knows the next church planter, the next youth president, the next teacher, leader, etc…is here
11. Get out from where you are…
12. Bring your gift. Trust your leadership. Get in the harvest.