



THE CROSSCROWN

"No Cross, No Crown"

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Matthew wrote about a time when the disciples urged Jesus to send a crowd away. In contrast to the time when they tried to keep children from Jesus or when people tried to keep a blind man from bothering him, the disciples, in this instance, actually made the suggestion out of concern for crowd. In a remote place, knowing that the people were hungry, they urged Jesus to dismiss the crowd so that they could go to the nearby towns and get something to eat.

The disciples' hearts were in the right place, but their faith was lacking. Jesus responded to their urging by saying, "You give them something to eat."



Resurrection Life Church is a little church, with a small and, frankly, overextended leadership team. It's hard for us to think about adding families to the church when we have no staff for a nursery, no children's church, and no programs like Missionettes and Royal Rangers for older children. I sometimes feel that our ministry is to bring people into the Kingdom and then release them to larger churches, where their whole families can be ministered to. I say this because, ultimately, we want what's best for our neighbors, even if it means that (as Mrs. Bogdan used to say) they love us and leave us. However, as I read Matthew 14 this past week, I sensed God whispering, "You give them something to eat."

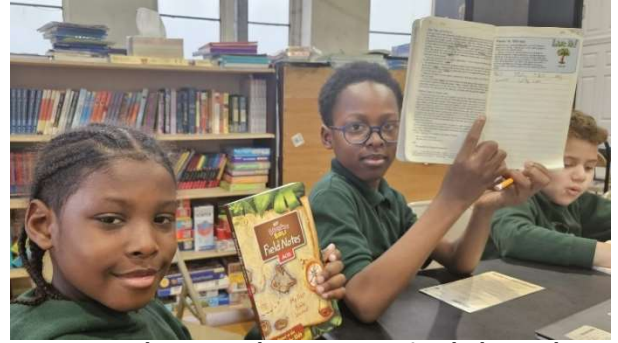
Our church is like the disciples, both in that we don't have the resources to meet the need, and in that we care enough to want our people to go where they can be fed. I feel, though, that God is calling us to a deeper faith in his sufficiency. At the beginning of the year, I asked you to join us in praying for miracles. Will you pray that God will multiply our loaves and fish to supply all of our neighbors' needs?

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.
(II Corinthians 12:9)*

Thanks for Praying!

We need your help on this journey of faith. Please continue to intercede with us for:

- a multiplication of our resources and effectiveness,
- our summer camp, and the necessary scholarship funds,
- a season of refreshing for our ministry team, and
- fresh laborers with a passion for our mission field.







Our Academy students are excited about the Book of Acts!

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join with you in praying for, please let us know. (We will only publish your requests in this newsletter with your permission.)

We really do love hearing from you! Every message and phone call helps us keep going!

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we won't be offended! Just call or write us, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know, or subscribe to it at crossandcrown.online/subscribe !

Did you know?

The smallest species of wasp is $\frac{1}{125}$ of an inch long. That's about $\frac{1}{8}$ of the width of this letter, "I," and smaller than an amoeba. Even so, these wasps, which live for an average of five days, are able fly, and the females lay eggs.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, ...
small creatures and flying birds

(Psalm 148:7,10)



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