

## **Pastor Writes**

***When the people saw the sign that Jesus had performed, they began to say, "Truly this is the prophet who is to come into the world." (John 6:14)***

When we talk about ministry we usually think of preaching or ministering to the sick or needy. The ministry of giving material things to God and for his kingdom is quite often neglected. Preachers are not always happy to preach on this for the fear of being misunderstood but the word of God is very clear on this. Isaiah 58:7 says a good fasting means to provide the needs of a fellow believer. *Deuteronomy 14:22* talks about giving tithe to God and *Deuteronomy 26:12* talks about giving tithe to Levite because they had no land of their own and were dependent on the Temple. God looks at the heart of the giver and not at the amount one gives for God's service. While giving to God three things need to be kept in mind.

**1. Identifying the need (John 6:2-7)** Jesus knew that people who came to listen to his word would need physical food as well. God takes care of both our spiritual and temporal needs.

**2. Having a heart to give (John 6:8-9)** The little boy who had five loaves of bread and two fish was willing to share his material blessings to receive spiritual and permanent blessings from God.

**3. Trusting God to provide needs (John 6: 10-14)** Peter had faith in the Messiah that he could feed the multitude with that small amount of food. This faith resulted in blessing and people grew in faith of the Messiah.

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## **Prayer**

***Gracious Father, thank you for your generous gifts. Grant that I may have a sharing heart to share with those in need. Amen.***