

JULY 26, 2015



# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



2 KINGS 4:42–44

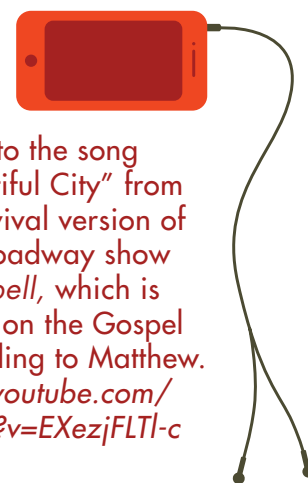
PSALM 145:10–11, 15–16, 17–18

EPHESIANS 4:1–6

JOHN 6:1–15

## REFLECTION

There are always a lot of practical reasons *not* to help. I don't have the time. I don't have the money. I don't have any special training. I'm too young. It might make me uncomfortable to be with people in need. I wouldn't know how to act around people who are different than I am. I'd have to go out of my way. Some of those things may be true. All of them might be true even. But none of them is a sufficient reason to do nothing. When Jesus asks the disciples how they will feed the crowd there are two responses. Phillip says there's no way, we haven't got the resources. It's impossible. Andrew takes the opposite stance—well, here's what we *do* have. Today's readings are a great reminder that you may not have much, but offer what you have. God can make a miracle.



Listen to the song "Beautiful City" from the revival version of the Broadway show *Godspell*, which is based on the Gospel according to Matthew. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXezjFLTl-c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXezjFLTl-c)

## ACTION

Feed somebody this week. Whether you just share your lunch with somebody who forgot theirs, pick up fast food to give to the homeless guy you pass on your way home, or get yourself down to the soup kitchen or food cupboard to help.

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Write about an experience you've had that reflects this quote from Helen Keller: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do."
- What do you have to offer? How can you help build the Kingdom of God?