

LOAVES AND FISHES

Jesus fed the people with just five loaves and two fish.

This miracle is beautiful for among other things its simplicity.
There was a need. He had limited resources. But from what he had he provided what was needed.

The day was long and beautifully hot. So what was he doing here in the Trafford Centre with his Overexcited Mum and sister. Waiting outside changing rooms until he had to make the obligatory remark.

“Yes it looks nice”

All he had to entertain himself was his imagination. So he used it.

As they tried on yet more clothes, that would prove too small for them, he sat there and worked out how best to rob the store.

He realised that there were cameras all over the store so he would need a disguise, and the costume he needed would be provided by the shop itself. He would enter as a normal boy, pick up one or two items, enter the changing rooms, and emerge dressed as a girl.

Then he would release the mice that he had cunningly smuggled in with him. In the panic the security video would record pictures of him in skirt wig and matching top, emptying each of the tills of their £20 notes.

Then to escape and get his mother out of the shop he would set off the fire alarm throw off his costume and run for the door.

All he had to entertain himself
was his imagination.

Yet with this limited resource he turned boredom into fun.

Loaves and fishes.

They only had a terraced house with a small patch of green in the back yard.

But this young man was in the mood to prove the world wrong.

He dug up a small patch of lawn. Set up a net that he had read would keep out the pests and planted lettuce and peas.

He had been told by those with less faith than he had that the slugs would eat the lot.

He had been told that the harvest would be so small that it was not worth the effort.

He had been told that he was daft.

But he cooked the garden peas that he had grown himself and served them with the impossible lettuce, thus he was nourished. Nourished with the pride of knowing that out of what little resources available he had achieved.

Loaves and fishes

They had always been devoted sisters so love and good intentions were in abundance.

But good intentions alone would not decorate the bedroom.

So with an ample supply of wallpaper in case of mishap. A pasting table lent by a friend, and a lot of giggling these two women set about the job.

The final result was more beautiful than any professional decorator could create. Because once the paper had dried, the furniture put back in place, and a degree of normality returned to life. Then she lay down to sleep knowing she was surrounded by this living symbol of her family's love.

It was not loaves and fishes. But never the less from the limited experience and training they had, they created something wonderful.

Will you ever be skilled enough to do the perfect job?

Will there ever come a time when you have more than enough money?

Will the day arrive when the perfect circumstances, are matched by the perfect materials?

For most of us this will not happen.

So accept and enjoy.

Then take up the loaves and fishes that you have, and celebrate life with them.