

## **What are These Among so Many? Defeating the Spirit of Intimidation - Luke 6. 9-14**

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How many times have you been standing somewhere and felt so small and insignificant. Unlike some of you, I feel this way a great deal of the time. Have you ever felt like as much as you want to help that what you have doesn't really amount to much. Have you ever felt that everyone else was smarter, stronger and better equipped than you?

When I first arrived at MIT, I was so intimidated by my surroundings. The people were cold and so was the weather. My colleagues seemed absolutely brilliant in every way. My professors were world renowned in academics and research. Me, I was a scrawny seventeen year old who had never lived more than 50 miles from the hospital he was born in. I had no idea how I even got accepted and no clue as to how I would graduate. I had no money, no friends and no connections with anyone. The spirit of intimidation ruled my life for about six weeks and then something happened that changed everything. What? Today you will hear the principles that brought me out of intimidation and into confidence in God.

### **1. The lad was where he was supposed to be.**

I was curious about the use of the term "lad" so I investigated a little.

Pais (paheece); perhaps from NT:3817; a boy (as often beaten with impunity), or (by analogy,) a girl, and (genitive case) a child; specifically, a slave or servant (especially a minister to a king; and by eminence to God):

KJV – child, maid (-en), (man) servant, son, young man.

Paidarion (pahee-dar'-ee-on); neuter of a presumed derivative of NT:3816; a little boy:

paio (pah'-yo); a primary verb; to hit (as if by a single blow and less violently than NT:5180); specifically to sting (as a scorpion):

- You end up being beaten before you get blessed
- You have to have a lunch in order to get intimidated

It wouldn't make sense to tell you that you have nothing to offer if you didn't have anything to offer. It would be obvious. I realized that no matter how I felt I was where I was supposed to be!

- You have to decide if you're going to keep it to yourself

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**2. The lad connected to the person God intended to connect him with.**

*8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?"*

- Sometimes our intimidation is the result of trusting men! Ps 20:7

*7 Some boast in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the LORD, our God.*

- We have to trust in the God of connection! *David and Abigail*
- We have to trust the Christ in the person He sends

Andrew was the extension of Jesus to the lad...

**3. The lad's heart not his lunch made the difference.**

- The lunch was inadequate to feed the crowd
- The lunch had not been originally designed for the crowds but for the lad
- The lunch took on a new molecular structure when it got in the hands of "the Creator"!

A stick in Moses hand, a sling in David's hand, a harp in Solomon's hand, a burned out stone in Nehemiah's hand, a little flour and oil in a widow's hand, an illegitimately born baby in Mary's hand, a rugged cross and a nail in Jesus' hand...

You are you until you are in His hand - now you're redeemed, now you're filled, now you have purpose, now you have structure, now you have hope, now you have peace...

Lunch was just lunch, fish were just fish, bread was just bread until it hit the Creator's hand!