

- Just a few quick thoughts today...
- I don't know if you are familiar with him...
  - but I recently watched an old video on YouTube...
    - I think I was looking for footage of WYD here in Denver...
    - when a video of St. John Paul came up...
      - but from a few years early.
  - He was listening to a concert in L.A....
    - He was listening to a man born without any arms - Tony Melendez.
- Despite his obvious physical limitations...
  - Tony was also born with a great gift for music.
  - So he developed a unique way to share that gift with others.
  - He played with his feet!
- He started on a push-button organ...before playing the guitar and harmonica.
  - And then the Lord lead Tony...
    - to combine his musical gifts with his faith...
    - into a wonderful music ministry.
- I'm pretty sure he played here in Denver in 1993...
  - but in this video from 1987...
    - St. John Paul...who was not so young and spry...even then...
    - leaped out of his seat...jumped off the stage...and into the crowd...
    - so overcome was the Pope..
    - with the God given graces...of this humble man.
  - He then embraced him and said:
    - *"My wish for you...is to continue giving this hope to all the people."*
    - And he's still doing that to this day.
  - Tony is a perfect illustration...
    - of the principle at work in our Gospel.
- The disciples didn't have...all that much going for them.
  - Five loaves...two fish...
    - that couldn't possibly feed such a crowd!
  - But they brought what little they had...
    - and gave it all to the Lord...
    - who blessed it...
    - and gave it back to them.
- Notice: He didn't distribute the food Himself.
  - Jesus made it clear...
    - that this miracle...would not happen without them...
  - but as they did do what He commanded...
    - the impossible...
      - became possible!
    - What was too little...
      - suddenly became too much!

- What do you have to offer the Lord today?
  - Too little time...not enough energy...
  - Whatever it is...
    - don't worry if it seems so small.
    - Give it to the Lord anyhow.
  - If you run out of time to pray...
    - give Him your work...or give Him your time of study.
  - Give Him the difficult situation...
    - that you're dealing with in your family.
  - Give Him your imagination...
    - your worries...your anxieties...your fears.
  - Give Him what you do have...
    - offer it as a small sacrifice...
    - and Jesus will bless your efforts...to do incredible things.
  
- Personally...I have too little time.
  - As many of you know...
    - I have other assignments and ministries that I do.
      - Some of them are public...some of them are not...
      - Some take very little time...some take a lot...
    - But I'm up to six now...
      - because this past week...
      - Archbishop appointed me dean.
    - That means I'm like a big brother to the priests in this area...
      - it means more meetings... more time.
      - And I already don't have...nearly enough.
  
- And as we go through this next year...
  - I think we're all going to be facing...
    - many more needs in our lives...
    - many more seemingly impossible things...
    - things that we're not even aware of at the present time.
  
- But each time we face those challenges...
  - like Tony Melendez...
    - we just need to work with what we've got...
  - giving it all to the Lord...
    - and then watching Him work through us...
    - to do great and wonderful things.