

“And the People Said...”

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“And the People Said...”

-Barnabas

-Lois

Barnabas: Jesus sure has cured a lot of people today...

Lois: It's incredible! Who knows what's going to happen next!

Barnabas: Did you see that lame guy dancing the lambada?

Lois: Barnabas, there's no need for name calling...

Barnabas: No, no...I mean his foot was broken and now he's tearing up the dance floor!

Lois: Who, that guy over there? *(points) (optional for pre-recorded– add stock footage of dancer)*

Barnabas: No, not that one. That's a guy who was mourning and now he's doing the macarena.

Lois: Oh, you mean that guy over there? *(points in another direction) (optional for pre-recorded – add stock footage of dancer)*

Barnabas: No, not that guy. He was demon-possessed. Now he's got disco fever.

Lois: Oh, geez...can Jesus cure that, too?

Barnabas: I mean, he's Jesus...he can cure anything. But that guy looks so happy!

Lois: With moves like that, he could surely stay alive, do the hustle, work at the car wash, be so excited, join a love train...

Barnabas: *(interrupts)* As long as he stays out of the disco inferno, he'll probably be okay.

Lois: I see what you did there... *(smile at each other)* But you must mean that guy. *(points in another direction) (optional for pre-recorded – add stock footage of dancer)*

Barnabas: Yep. That's the one I mean, Lois. Look at him go!

*(stomach rumbling noise)*

Lois: What on earth was that?! Is the earth shaking? Is the sea attacking us? IS IT THE CURSE OF JONAH?

Barnabas: No, no! Silly person... That is the rumbling of the stomachs of 5,000 men.

Lois: Umm...Barnabas...

Barnabas: Yep, how can I help you?

Lois: Are you counting me in that number or no?

Barnabas: *(slowly, awkwardly)* Eh, no....

Lois: Because I'm a woman. You know, w-o-m-a-n. Also, there's a bunch of kids here, too.

Barnabas: *(surprised)* Are there really? *(Looks around with growing awareness)* Well, what do you know about that? You're right! There are women and children all over the place!

Lois: I'm pretty sure that rumbling is coming from our tummies, too.

Barnabas: You know what? That makes sense. So.....do you have any crackers?

Lois: Crackers?

Barnabas: Snack-packs, cinnamon rolls, cheesecake, ants on a log, baked Alaska?

Lois: Baked a-what-a?

Barnabas: Oh, you know, it's that one with ice cream and cake and eggs and you light it on fire somehow...

Lois: What do you think – I bring a whole kitchen with me everywhere I go?!

Barnabas: Yea....*(sees exasperated look in her eye)* No! Of course not! No...that would be ridiculous, riiiiight? *(sees her look again)* Yes, no, I don't think that. So...ahem....uh, do we all go home now?

Lois: Maybe you can go home. I live several towns over and it's too far for me to get there before nightfall. I didn't bring any money with me or anything – I was just so excited when I heard Jesus was in town that I dropped everything to follow.

Barnabas: *(a little sheepish)* Oh, I'm sorry. I mean, I don't even have enough food to feed my family or we'd have you over. I'm sure...I mean, I'd have to ask my wife first...

Lois: What is happening up there? It looks like his disciples are talking to him. What are they saying?

Barnabas: Well, I don't know. I've been talking to you!

Lois: Hush! I'm trying to hear. *(strains forward to listen for a few moments and really leans into it)*

Barnabas: Say, what if we –

Lois: (*interrupts*) Shush it! I'm still listening! (*strains to listen and leans forward further and further until she falls over*). Aaaaaaaaaaaaaack! (*sighs in frustration and stays flat*)

Barnabas: Lois? (*walks over to her*) Lois? Is that we he said we should do? Fall over? Lois? (*shrugs, makes the shrugging sound, and falls over like she did*) Aaaaaaaaaaaaaack! (*waits a moment*) I don't get it.

Lois: You don't get what?

Barnabas: I mean, I'm still hungry, but now I've got dirt all over my clothes. Do you think this means I'm meek?

Lois: Meek? How does this make you meek?

Barnabas: Well, maybe this is just the start of me inheriting the earth!

Lois: (*to the camera*) I wonder if Jesus ever heals people from making bad puns...(*points at Barnabas with side eye and rolls her eyes*)

Barnabas: Lois! I'm still hungry.

Lois: Well, then, I guess you're just gonna have to be hungry. Don't you know there's no such thing as a free lunch? You want something – you work for it, you plan ahead, you bring it along. No one owes you a living, you know!

Barnabas: I mean...I know...I guess. I wasn't expecting anything. I mean, it's not like I think I deserve the best of the best, but...

Lois: But what?

Barnabas: But I'm hungry – not just today...every day. We do the best that we can, but most nights there's not enough food to go around. The crops failed this year and, I know it's hard all over, but I'm hungry.

Lois: Hey...I'm sorry. I didn't know. I really would help you out, but I guess I'm homeless for the night.

Barnabas: Wait a minute – what's happening up there?

Lois: It looks like five loaves and two fishes – that's not enough to feed this whole crowd. What do they think they're doing? Oh no...are these people all nuts? Did I miss a day's work and chores to follow after a crazy person?

Barnabas: Lois, stop. Look – really look! It’s definitely five loaves and two fishes, but the disciples are bringing it around to the crowd. They’re giving it to everybody and it just keeps being enough. I’ve never seen anything like it. No matter how much they give out, there is enough.

Lois: But that’s impossible!

Barnabas: But it’s happening.

Lois: But it’s impossible!

Barnabas: But it’s happening!

Lois: (*slower*) But it’s impossible.

Barnabas: Impossible and real.

*(Cut away and have scraps of bread evident on return OR if video editing isn’t possible, have someone hand scraps of bread/fish to Lois and Barnabas)*

Lois: He must be truly sent from God – a miracle.

Barnabas: (*in awe*) He heals, he teaches, he feeds...

Lois: He’s not just trying to prove how powerful he is. He’s not just trying to prove how clever he is. He saw that we were hungry and far from home and he wanted us to be filled with – let’s be honest – the tastiest bread and fish I have ever eaten!

Barnabas: I didn’t ask him for help.

Lois: I didn’t tell him my worries.

Barnabas: But he saw my need and he answered. I’ve never experienced anything like this. What do I...how do I...what do you even say in light of such grace?

Lois: “Thanks be to God.”

Barnabas: Thanks be to God. Amen.