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## TOUGH ASSIGNMENTS

**“Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming towards Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”**  
**(John 6:5-7 NKJV)**

**EXAMS ARE part of teaching and learning. The teacher gives the material to the students, the students study, and the teacher tests their knowledge with an exam.** While we know that God doesn't test anyone in the sense of tempting him or her to sin (James 1:13), He does help us learn by giving us exams from time to time.

**He tested Philip by asking a question, not because Jesus didn't know the answer, but because He wanted to help Philip grow in his faith.** It is likely that Philip was from the surrounding area and would be familiar with nearby sources of food. He had been looking around at the crowd, estimating the number of people and what it would cost to feed them. His estimate of two hundred denarii was the equivalent of a working man's wages for an entire year. **But Philip's calculation was based on human resources, not on Jesus' resources. He had seen Jesus do some amazing feats, but when he calculated the cost of the food he forgot to factor in faith; he neglected to include Jesus in his figures.**

**Most of us are like Philip when faced with a test.** We immediately try to think of how to solve the situation ourselves. **We get busy evaluating and calculating, all without going to God for His help and His power. We pick up the phone and call someone for help, forgetting that the greatest help is but a whisper away....**

**What about You? Are you in the middle of a difficult exam today, wondering if you're going to pass or fail the test? The surest way to pass is to immediately ask God to come alongside you and use His power to help you.... AMEN.**

~ Dr. Jack Graham

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*  
*Matthew 28:18 – 20*

