



Developed for the  
Synod of Alberta  
and the Territories  
and adapted for the  
Learning-Leadership  
Development  
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# *Council Devotions*

## *Leftovers*

**Read Matthew 15:32 - 38**

**Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ‘I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.’**

**And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children.**

**Ponder:** [In pairs or in groups of 3, discuss what you hear from the reading.]

What lessons did Jesus intend that his  
disciples [leaders like you] learn?

What might our council learn from this?

**Summarize:** [Hear from the other groups.]

**Pray:**

**‘P’ – praise** the qualities of Christ.

[You may include compassion, grace, mercy, forgiveness...]

**‘R’ – remember** the things God has given you.

[Salvation, life, fellowship, daily food ...]

**‘A’ – ask** for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your deliberations.

[Include those items under consideration at this meeting.]

**‘Y’ – yield** to God’s will.

[Not my will, but yours be done.]

This devotional outline is intended to help you create your own opening devotion for your council meeting. The focus is on some aspect of leadership. It should promote discussion about Jesus and how he worked with his followers. Devotions in this style encourage council members to share their thinking about the role of leadership. This is a guide only and should be adapted to the time available and to your group. This opening devotion may take 5 – 10 minutes to conduct, but it will take a little preparation on your part. Possible themes: abundance, trust and obedience, taking care of needs, power of blessing, or share the load.