

A TRAIL OF CRUMBS

by Ian Menzies

I recently came across a reflection musing that following Jesus was akin to following “a trail of crumbs”.

The contention was that throughout the Gospels, and indeed throughout the Bible itself, there are numerous tales of food.

Tales of fishing, banquets and vineyards. Of weddings and of feasting.

There's the Passover meal that led directly to the sharing of bread and wine in the Last Supper.

There are parables about seeds, planting and harvests. Accounts of feeding thousands. Stories of fig trees, gardeners and shepherds. Of gatherings small and large, all held over shared meals.

Analogies abound. We talk about being “fed by the Word”, of “hungering for justice”, or of “thirsting for righteousness”.

Abundance is celebrated: “My cup runneth over.” (Psalm 23) “This is the way he governs the nations and provides food in abundance.” (Job

36:31) “Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities.” (Genesis 41:48)

This Biblical “trail of crumbs” even includes mention of actual crumbs eaten by dogs from their master's table.

Food is such a basic need for all that it is no surprise that it is central to so many of the Biblical stories and is a marker of celebration in God's love.

For example, “He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God”. (Acts 16:34)

And so today, in following Jesus we are challenged to continue to spread the “crumbs”: “Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2)

A crumb is such a small thing. But then, so is a mustard seed.

www.victas.uca.org.au/resources | Photo by freepik.com | May 2025

Bequest

Remember the Church in your will.

A bequest will help continue to work of the Church long after you're gone. There are many ways a bequest can help the work of the Church - whether for a specific cause that's dear to your heart, for a specific congregation or for the general purposes of the life of the Church.

Want to know more?

Speak to your solicitor or financial advisor, or visit the Synod's website:

www.victas.uca.org.au