

# The Cookie Crumbles: Religious Perspective

Tanchuma 8:3

"There is no happiness like the happiness of giving to another."

## Acts 2:44-45 (New International Version)

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.

## Muslim Theme

Sheikh Abul Hasan Antaki (RA.) lived in Raye, a city in Khorassan, Iran. One day, by chance the Sheikh had more than thirty guests, and he did not make enough bread to offer them. He could not bake more bread because it was late at night. So, he broke the few loaves he had into small pieces and spread them over a tablecloth, which he had laid before his guests. When they were going to start eating, the Sheikh put out the lamp. Everybody seemed to start eating and one could hear the sound of their chewing. After awhile, the sound stopped and it was presumed that everybody had finished eating. The Sheikh then lighted the lamp and they saw that all the pieces were lying untouched; nobody had eaten anything. Because the food was little, everyone was thinking about his brothers next to him and wanted them to eat instead.

Source: "Fadhail-e-Sadaqaa: Part II" translated by Prof. Abdul Karim.

## Processing Questions:

1. How did you divide the cookie?
2. What role did trust play in sharing the cookie?
3. How is trust important when we share with others in community?
4. Why do you think trust is important when you share your time, talent and treasures?
5. What makes sharing hard to do?
6. Why is it important to learn to share?
7. Does God expect us to share with others? With people we know and even those we haven't met?

## Muslim Perspective:

1. What different ways can we divide things so everyone can share equally?
2. Is it better sometimes to do without something if it means someone else will be happy?
3. Can we always be fair when we want to share what we have?
4. If we do without something, will others think we are being more fair?

