

January 21, 2018

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Jesus Feeds the 5,000*

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God kept His greatest and best promise by sending His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins.

Today our children learn about Jesus feeding the crowd of 5,000. This story is probably a favorite or well-known story for the children in your class. Our story highlights both Christ's humanity and his deity. We see Jesus tired from the constant work of ministry, and his retreat for rest is interrupted by large crowds wanting to see him. The true intent of the crowd is not revealed, but we could guess that there were genuine followers and spectators wishing to see a miracle of some sort. Well Jesus does do that! In this miracle, Jesus shows his deity by taking a meager meal and feeding at least 5,000 men (who knows how many women and children!). The story also highlights Jesus' compassion for those in need regardless of why they are following Him. This aspect should not be missed with your class today – the compassion of Christ will only be amplified as we follow Jesus into Easter. We should be reminded of God's own compassion towards us (Romans 5:8)! Such compassion for us should propel us to be compassionate toward others!

Scripture: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Story: Vos Child's Study Bible, Pages 288-289; The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 196-197; The Beginner's Bible, Pages 363-367; The Jesus Storybook Bible, Pages 236-243.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

Craft: Jesus Feeds the 5,000

Supplies: Cardstock boy with basket, croutons, goldfish crackers, verse sticker, glue, crayons/markers

Instructions:

1. Color boy and basket
2. Place sticker on basket
3. Glue croutons and goldfish to basket representing 5 loaves and 2 fish.



Relay of the Day: Fill the Basket

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

- **Cherub Church** for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:40-11:55

Craft: Jesus Feeds the 5,000

Supplies: Basket, 5 loaves, 2 fish

Instructions:

1. Color basket, fish, and loaves
2. Place fish and loaves inside basket



Relay of the Day: Fill the Basket

Story: *Jesus Feeds the 5,000*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, when was the last time you were really hungry? [Allow for answers] Well in our story today a very large crowd was following Jesus and they were very hungry! Jesus felt sorry for them and did something incredible! Let's find out what Jesus did in our story today...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus' continues to travel teaching and doing miracles. Word about Jesus has spread far and wide, so many people travel to see and hear Jesus' teaching.
- All the teaching, traveling and caring for people had made Jesus very tired. He wished to find a place to rest. However, the crowds found the secret place Jesus went to rest.
- Jesus continued to teach and care for the crowd; as daylight dwindled the disciples encouraged Jesus to send the people away.
- Jesus saw the need of the crowd – they had spent all day listening to Jesus and did not even have time to eat. Jesus sent out his disciples to search for food. Jesus had compassion on the whole crowd.
- The disciples returned to Jesus reporting that they only had 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. Jesus instructed the disciples to have the crowd sit in groups of 50 and 100.
- Jesus takes the bread and fish, gives thanks to God, and has the disciples pass it out to the crowd.
- Everyone in the crowd was able to eat until they were full. The disciples collected the remaining food and it was enough to fill up 12 baskets.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, when was the last time you were really hungry? [Allow for answers] Well in our story today a very large crowd was following Jesus and they were very hungry! Jesus felt sorry for them and did something incredible! Let's find out what Jesus did in our story today...

Jesus Feeds the 5,000

Word of Jesus had spread far and wide throughout the land. Not only did people hear and know about Jesus, but his disciples too. The disciples had traveled to different towns and villages preaching about Jesus and performing miracles. Many people wanted to hear and see Jesus for themselves, so they traveled to find Jesus. More and more people found Jesus and began to follow Him around. Crowds of people were coming and going to see what Jesus was teaching or doing. Jesus and the disciples spent a lot of time teaching and performing miracles. Sometimes Jesus and his followers did not even have time to eat. Jesus had become tired. So, Jesus said to His disciples, "Come with me. We will go to a quiet place to be alone. There we will get some rest."

Jesus and the disciples tried to sneak away from the large crowd. They went in a boat alone to a place where there were no people. But many people saw Jesus and the disciples leave and recognized them. Word spread fast to other people

about where Jesus was going. People from all the towns ran to the place where Jesus was going. They got there before Jesus arrived. When Jesus and the disciples landed their boat on shore, there was a great crowd waiting. Jesus felt sorry for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So, Jesus continued to teach them many things.

The day was almost over and nighttime was coming soon. Jesus' disciples came to him and said, "No one lives in this place. And it is already very late. Send the people away. They need to go to the farms and towns around here to buy some food to eat."

But Jesus answered his disciples, "You give them food to eat."

They said to him, "We can't buy enough bread to feed all these people! We would all have to work a month to earn enough money to buy that much bread!"

Jesus asked them, "How many loaves of bread do you have now? Go and see." The disciples went searching for loaves of bread. They searched throughout the whole crowd. When they found all that was there, they came to Jesus and said, "We have five loaves and two fish."

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Tell all the people to sit in groups on the green grass." The disciples told the crowd to do just as Jesus had said and they obeyed. Scattered on the green grass there were groups of 50 or groups of 100 people. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish. He looked up to heaven and thanked God for the bread. He divided the bread and gave it to his disciples for them to give to the people. Then he divided the two fish among them all. All the people ate and were satisfied. The disciples filled 12 baskets with the pieces of bread and fish that were not eaten. There were about 5,000 men there who ate. This number doesn't include all the women and children that were there too! Jesus performed such a powerful miracle for all to see!

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What had Jesus been doing that made him popular throughout the land?
- Why did Jesus and the disciples sneak off?
- Why did people come to Jesus?
- Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit in what size groups?
- How many loaves of bread and fish did the disciples find?
- How many baskets were full of food after everyone had had their fill?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

Scripture Memory for January:

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." (Matthew 14:27)

Catechism Questions (1-20)

Hymn of the Month:

All Creatures of Our God and King