

The Connection

Weekly Bible Verse: "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

▶ September 27, 2020

Together

Little Is Much When God Is In It!

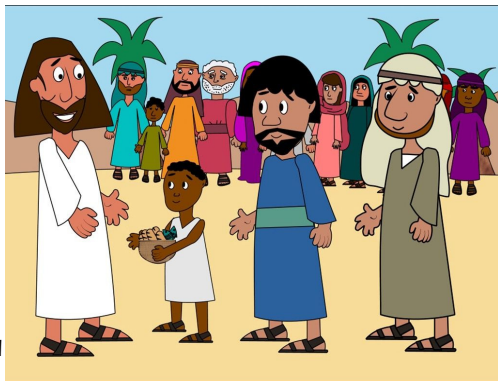


Together we can continue to make sure that children hear the stories of the Bible and of God's love and promises! Together let's keep doing kid's ministry at the time our kids need it most.

Jesus performed miracles throughout His ministry. These miracles were not simply random acts of kindness. Jesus claimed to be the means by which God was establishing His Kingdom. The miracles Jesus performed revealed the nature of God's Kingdom and affirmed that Jesus was, in fact, God's Son and Messiah. Many people heard about Jesus. They heard that he was a good teacher and helped people to learn more about God. They heard that he could make sick people well. Sometimes big crowds of people would gather to hear Jesus speak. One time Jesus and his apostles wanted to spend time together away from the big crowds of people. Where could they go to be alone? They decided to get into a boat and sail to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. They could rest and talk together in the quiet of the grassy green hills away from cities and people. So they sailed across.



The Sea of Galilee is not very big. It is not actually a sea but it is a lake. The people could see Jesus and his apostles landing the boat on the distant shore. The people wanted to be with Jesus so much that they decided to follow him. They walked around the lake to the other shore. Soon there was a



huge crowd of people gathered again to hear Jesus preach. There were five thousand men plus women and children. Jesus knew that the people must really be serious if they walked all the way around the lake. He did not rest but spent all day teaching the people about God.

When evening came the apostles began to wonder how all of these people were going to eat. They were far away from any towns. Maybe Jesus should stop preaching so the people could walk to a town and buy some food. Jesus knew the apostles were worried. He asked one of the apostles, "Philip, where are we going to buy bread for all of these people?" Philip was from a town near there and he knew that it would cost a lot to buy food for over five thousand people. Philip answered Jesus, "I would have to work for eight months to earn enough money to feed this

crowd!"

Andrew was another apostle. He had been asking people in the crowd if they had any food. He found one boy who had brought his lunch. The boy did not have much food. He only had two small fish and five small loaves of bread. Andrew did not know how this small amount would feed over five thou-

sand people but he took the food to Jesus anyway. He knew that Jesus could do anything! Jesus said, "Divide all of the people into groups of fifty and tell them to sit down on the grass." Soon the whole crowd was divided into small groups. Then Jesus did a wonderful thing! He prayed to God to thank Him for the food and then he began handing bread and fish to people. Jesus began with only two fish and five loaves of bread but every time he handed it to someone, more bread and fish would appear. Jesus gave bread and fish to everyone in the whole crowd. Everyone ate bread and fish until they were full! Finally, when everyone was finished they cleaned up all of the small pieces of bread left over. The leftover bread was enough to fill twelve baskets full!

Jesus fed over five thousand people from two little fish and five small loaves of bread. No human being could do a miracle like that. Only Jesus could. Jesus was powerful enough to take care of a whole crowd of people. Jesus is powerful enough to take care of you and me.

Living the Story

Making the Lesson Come Alive!

- ◆ Bubbles Play Time: Spend some time blowing bubbles. Talk about how many bubbles can come out of a very small bottle of bubbles. Tell children that ALL those bubbles can represent all the things that GOD can do when HE is in our lives!!
- ◆ Bread and Fish Drawing: With markers or crayons, draw a picture of this week's story. Write the Bible Verse on the picture.
- ◆ Make some homemade bread for lunch and talk about sharing with others.
- ◆ Use a Bible concordance to find out what types of fish were found in the Sea of Galilee. Also learn

more about the types of bread that were eaten.

- ◆ Calculate how much it would cost to feed 5000 men if each one had a hamburger, fries and drink. (guess how many women and children). How many groups of 50 would that have been?
- ◆ If the weather is nice, consider eating outside sitting on the grass while reviewing the story.
- ◆ **Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for using whatever we have for your will. Please help us to trust in You and let our lives be used for your glory. We know you will always provide and make great things out of small things. Thank you for miracles. Thank you for your love. We love you, God! In Jesus name, Amen!



What does the miracle of Feeding the 5000 teach us?

- Jesus performed miracles as a sign of his identity and proof of his authority.
- ◆ Even after a long day, Jesus has time to help.
 - ◆ Jesus uses people to help other people so that both are blessed.
 - ◆ When I give what little I have away, it multiplies in return.
 - ◆ Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God the leftovers (even after everyone had been fed) tell us that there is going to be enough love and forgiveness for everyone.

Additional Pages:

Coloring Page - Jesus Feeds the 5000

Word Puzzle - Jesus Feeds 5000

Resources:

Jesus Feeds 5000 - ShareFaith
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uupg0V-17NU>

Jesus Feeds the 5000 - Saddleback Kids
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXOPfFrZU8>



Questions for Today's Lesson

I wonder if I would have been willing to share my lunch?

How do you think the boy felt when he was asked to help Jesus?

How do you think the boy's life changed after he met Jesus and saw the miracle?

Happy Fall!

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

As we begin the fall season, may we remember the teachings from Ecclesiastes, that "there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens". Summer has slipped away quietly as the autumn leaves have started to fall. The changing seasons give us a time to reflect on God's beauty.

- ◆ Count your blessings
- ◆ Give thanks
- ◆ Praise God

