

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

One day, Jesus and His disciples needed rest, so they traveled in a boat across the Sea of Galilee to a place where not many people lived. They hoped that by doing this they would be able—at least for a little while—to avoid the large crowds of people who always gathered around Jesus in other parts of Galilee.

When Jesus and His disciples got to where they were going, they found that many people had followed them there, too. Jesus and the disciples would not be able to rest, as they had hoped; but instead of becoming angry, Jesus taught the people about the Kingdom of God, and He healed those who were sick.

Jesus knew that soon the crowds of people would be very hungry, so He tested the faith of His twelve disciples by asking them where they could get food, so that all these crowds of people could eat. The disciples knew that they couldn't buy food for that many people, but they should have remembered that Jesus is the Son of God, and then turned to Him in faith to meet whatever the needs might be. Instead, their faith was weak, and they thought there was no way to solve the problem.

Jesus knew all along what He would do. He performed a miracle. He took five loaves of bread, and two broiled fish, and had the disciples pass them out to the people. Jesus caused the bread and fish to increase, so that when they were all finished, 5,000 men had eaten all they wanted, and there were still twelve baskets full of fish and bread left over.

By performing this miracle, Jesus not only gave His disciples a lesson about faith, He

also proved that He is the Son of God, the Messiah promised in the Bible, who would save us from our sins.

Jesus fed five thousand men.

We can trust Jesus to provide food for us.

Passage

"Give us this day our daily bread." Matthew 6:11

Hymn & Prayer - TLH #644

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



Classroom Activity - *Who Remembers the Story?* Teacher, read the following questions and answers to the class and have the students put their thumb up if the answer you read is correct; put their thumbs down if incorrect; or they could stand up for the correct answers.

1. Jesus and His disciples needed rest, so they went to
 - A. Disneyland.
 - B. bed.
 - C. a place where not many people lived.
 - D. Jerusalem.

2. When Jesus and the disciples got to where they were going,
 - A. they spent the day resting.
 - B. many people were already there.
 - C. they became lost.
 - D. they went for a hike.

3. Which of the following things did Jesus do?
 - A. teach the people about the Kingdom of God
 - B. heal those who were sick
 - C. perform a miracle to feed all the people
 - D. tell the crowds to go away, so that He could rest

4. What mistake did the disciples make?
 - A. they couldn't catch any fish
 - B. they tried to sneak away, to get some rest
 - C. they brought too much food
 - D. they didn't trust Jesus to be able feed the people.

5. What great truth should we remember from this lesson?
 - A. The works Jesus did prove that He is the Son of God.
 - B. Always take extra food when you go on a trip.
 - C. The disciples always applied their faith in the right way.
 - D. Jesus was not popular with the people of Galilee.

Classroom Art Activity- Teacher, help the students color and decorate the magnet below. Print their name in the blank side. Put a strip of magnetic tape behind it after it is decorated.



*Alternate Activity: Cut out pictures of food, clothing and shelter from magazines. Have the children glue stick the pictures onto a paper plate. Print the Bible passage on each plate and decorate as needed.

*Alternate Activity: Use a square of art foam about 3" x 3" (any color), glue the passage, 2 Goldfish or Whales brand crackers; 5 General Mills French Toast Crunch Cereal squares. Eat the extras for your snack.



