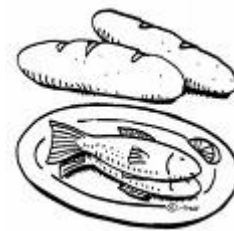


JESUS FEEDS A MULTITUDE

Lesson Plan:

1. *Activity:* Sit down with your children and have them draw five loaves of bread and two fishes. Help them as needed. (Alternate: Have them make the bread and fishes from Play-doh.)
2. *Account:* Read the account to your children (below). Incorporate the drawings or Play-doh as desired.
3. *Application:* Share some applications with your children (examples below).



Jesus Feeds a Multitude (Paraphrased from John 6:1-14)

One day, Jesus crossed over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. (The Sea of Galilee is also known as the "Sea of Tiberias".) There was a huge crowd of people that followed Jesus, because they had seen the miracles that He did by healing the people who had diseases.

When Jesus was on the other side of the sea, He went up on a mountain with His disciples and sat down with them for a while. (The time was getting close for the Jewish Passover feast.) And as Jesus was sitting with His disciples, He looked up and saw a huge crowd of people that were coming to Him.

Jesus turned to Philip (one of His disciples) and asked, "Where can we buy bread so we can feed all of these people?" Jesus already knew what He was going to do. He asked this question to test Philip.

Philip said, "Even if we worked for many months and saved all of our money, we still wouldn't have enough money to feed all of these people!"

Then Andrew spoke to Jesus (Andrew was another one of Jesus' disciples. Andrew was the brother of Peter.) Andrew said, "There is a young boy here that has five barley loaves of bread to two little fishes. But that sure wouldn't be enough to feed all of these people!"

Then, Jesus told them what to do. He said, "Tell all of the people to sit down." (There was a lot of grass around there, so everyone sat down on the grass. There was 5,000 men there! And that's not counting the women and children that were there!)

Then, Jesus took the young boy five barley loaves of bread and two small fishes and He thanked God for it. Then, He began giving the bread and the fishes to His disciples. The disciples, then, gave the food to the people who were sitting down. It was a miracle! From those five loaves and those two fishes Jesus had made hundreds and hundreds of more loaves and fishes! Everybody had enough to eat and their bellies were full!

After everyone had finished eating, Jesus said to His disciples, "Go and gather up all of the leftovers. Be sure that nothing is left to be wasted." They obeyed Jesus. After they were finished, they had gathered up twelve baskets full of leftovers! Imagine....Jesus started with a little boy's lunch of bread and fish, made enough to feed thousands of people, and then had

twelve whole baskets full left over! Everyone was amazed and knew they had seen a miracle! People said, "This must be the Prophet that we have been expecting to come!"

Application and Review: *(Review the account and discuss some of the applications to your children. To encourage learning, consider giving candy or a reward when the kids get the answer right. Below are some examples.)*

- How many men were in this large crowd – not counting the women and children? (5,000)
- What was the food that the young boy gave to Jesus? (Five barley loaves and two small fishes.)
- What did Jesus do with the young boys food? (He used it to perform a miracle and feed 1,000's. Note: Nothing is impossible with Jesus.)
- What do you think it was like to be that little boy who gave his food to Jesus? (It is amazing what Jesus can do with just a little bit when we make it available to Him.)
- What was the lesson that Jesus wanted His disciples to learn? (Jesus wanted them to know that nothing is impossible with Him. Philip and Andrew were not considering that fact that Jesus could do anything when they were trying to figure out how to solve the problem.)
- How many baskets of leftovers did the disciples take up? (Twelve)
- Did you notice how Jesus thanked God for the food before He ate? (We should always be thankful for the things God has blessed us with. Note: It all comes from Him. He made the dirt, the seeds, He gives the rain to water the crops, etc.)