

THE FEEDING OF THE 5,000

John 6:5-13



Contents

Message	Jesus provides spiritual strength for everyone who follows Him.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ After providing spiritual food and strength through His teaching, Jesus made sure everyone had enough to eat.■ When they have the desire to follow and believe, God will provide for them too.■ We obtain spiritual strength from listening to what we are taught in Sunday School and in the divine service.
Bible Text	John 6:1–13

The Feeding of the 5,000



Many people gathered to see Jesus and listened to what He had to say. He taught the people about God. The crowds grew larger while He talked.

One day Jesus went up a mountain and sat with His disciples. Many people followed Him because they had witnessed the miracles

He performed for people who were sick.

Soon the small crowd grew from just a few people to hundreds of people to thousands of people.

Jesus said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread so that the many people can eat?" Jesus said this to test Philip. He knew what he should do.

Philip answered, "Even for 200 denari we could not buy enough bread to satisfy all of them. And even if everyone eats only a little bit, it still would not be enough."

Andrew said, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two small fish. But how is that supposed to feed so many people?"

But Jesus said, "Tell the people to gather on the grass." Five thousand men, plus women and children, sat down on the grass.

Jesus took the boy's bread, gave thanks for it and gave the bread and fish to the disciples to distribute to the crowd. The people ate as much as they wanted.

Once they were filled, Jesus said to His disciples, "Collect up the leftovers so that nothing goes to waste."

The disciples collected twelve baskets of leftover food.

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Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise / fancy dress, bread, fish, baskets....

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- How does the crowd feel when Jesus talks for a long time? (They get hungry.)
- How does Philip feel as he has only 5 loaves of bread and 2 small fish?
(This is not enough.)
- What does Jesus do with the bread and fish before it is given to the people?
(He blesses it, breaks it and gives it to the disciples.)
- What happens after this?
(The disciples give it to the waiting crowd. There are twelve baskets of crumbs left afterwards.)

Have the children repeat...

- After providing spiritual food through His teaching, Jesus made sure everyone had enough to eat.
- When we have the desire to follow Jesus, God will care for us too.
- We obtain spiritual strength in Sunday school and in the divine service.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Jesus' disciples gave the bread and the fish to the people.
- Today the ministers serve in the divine service by Jesus' commission and give out God's word.
- This word is food for our soul.
- Thousands listen, "eat their fill" and experience blessing. Jesus also blesses today.

Repeat the Message
Jesus provides spiritual strength for everyone who follows
Him.