

JESUS FED A CROWD



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Guide the children to the group-time area by pretending to climb up a mountainside to see Jesus. Show the boys and girls how to step high like climbing a hill and to hold their hands above their eyes looking for Jesus.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

JESUS FED A CROWD—BASED ON JOHN 6:1-13

- » Open the Bible to John 6.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- » Many people followed Jesus and His disciples to a mountainside.
- » The people had heard about Jesus. They knew He helped people.
- » Jesus knew the people were hungry. He asked Philip where they could buy bread for all the people.
- » Philip told Jesus it would take a lot of money to buy enough food for everyone.
- » Andrew told Jesus a boy had five small loaves of bread and two fish.
- » Jesus took the fish and bread, thanked God for them, and gave the food to the hungry people.
- » The people ate all they wanted, and Jesus told the disciples to gather the leftovers.
- » They filled 12 baskets with leftovers. Jesus fed many hungry people!

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- » Why did the people follow Jesus to the mountainside?
- » Where did Jesus get the fish and bread to feed the people?
- » What did Jesus do before He broke the fish and bread into pieces and gave it to the people?
- » How many baskets of leftover food did the disciples gather?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- » Remark that God hears and answers prayer.

ROOM

YOUR TEACHING PARTNER(S)

DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God hears me when I pray.

LIFE POINT

God hears and answers prayer.

UNIT VERSE

When we pray, God hears us. *1 John 5:14*

WEEKLY VERSE

When we pray, God hears us. *1 John 5:14*

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

*Jesus fed a crowd one day,
Crowd one day, crowd one day,
Jesus fed a crowd one day,
He fed them fish and bread.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Insert a ribbon in I John 5:14. Close the Bible and open again to the marker and repeat the verse. Hand the Bible to a child. Suggest she open the Bible and repeat the verse. Guide her to hand the Bible to another child.

PRAY

Lead the children in prayer. Thank God for hearing us when we pray.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: God hears and answers prayer.

- 1. Paint fish.** Draw a simple fish shape on sheets of white paper. Pour a small amount of washable paint in a shallow pan. Prepare two or three pans of different colors. Show the children how to dip a plastic fork or back of a spoon in the paint and then press the utensil on the fish. Guide the children to cover the fish with paint. Comment that the fish reminds you of today’s story. Review the Bible Story as they paint. Remark that Jesus prayed before he gave the fish and bread to the people. God answered His prayer. God hears and answers our prayers, too.
- 2. Make the letter J.** Spread a large sheet of white paper on the table. Write large capital Js on the paper. Demonstrate for the children how to roll play dough in long ropes and use it to trace the Js. Ask the children to name things that begin with the letter J as they work. Remind them *Jesus* starts with a J. Point to the Bible and review the session story. Comment that Jesus prayed to God. Encourage the preschoolers to repeat the Life Point.

3. Pack groceries in a bag. Place pretend food and empty food containers on a table. Lay several grocery bags on the table. Invite the children to pack groceries. Talk about going to the store to buy groceries. Tell the story about Jesus feeding a large crowd of people. Remind the children there were too many people to buy food for. Jesus prayed, and God answered His prayer that the two fish and five loaves of bread a young boy had would be enough.

4. Work fish puzzles. Cut large fish shapes out of thick craft foam. Cut each fish from a different color of foam. Cut each fish into two or three pieces to make puzzles. Place the pieces in a basket and set on the table. Help the children work the puzzles. Mention that God heard Jesus pray, thanking Him for the fish and bread. God knew there were many people who needed to eat. He heard and answered Jesus’ prayer. He hears out prayers too.

CLEAN UP

Guide the children to begin cleaning when they hear the music. Play or sing a song about Jesus as you help the preschoolers clean the room.

RACE TO FILL A BASKET

Cut several fish and loaves of bread from paper and spread on the floor along a wall. Gather the children in to two groups. Set a basket beside each group. Invite the boys and girls to sit on the floor. Encourage them to remind you of the Bible story. Guide them in playing a game to see which team can collect the most leftovers. Tell them you will say start and they need to collect leftovers until they are all picked up. When all the leftovers are picked up, they need to sit by their baskets and count their leftovers. Play again if the children are interested.

DISMISS

Help children gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.