



UNIT 8, SESSION 1

# FEEDING THE 5,000

MATTHEW 14

## KEY POINTS

God can do the impossible. • God cares about our needs. • God can use small things to do great things.

## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who can use small things to make great things? God can use small things to make great things!

## MEMORY VERSE

The Lord is my strength and my shield. Psalm 28:7

# PREPARE



Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” - Matthew 19:26*

Food and fellowship often create some of the sweetest moments of connection. In preschool ministry, we see this too at snack time, shared tables, and simple conversations that can open the door for trust, joy, and meaningful relationships.

This week's lesson, feeding the 5,000, shows us how Jesus understood both the spiritual and physical needs of people. When He taught the crowd of 5,000, He noticed their hunger. The disciples saw only the problem: not enough food. But Jesus saw an opportunity for God to work. He took what was offered, just a few loaves and fishes, and turned it into more than enough.

As children's ministry leaders, we may sometimes feel like what we bring isn't enough. Our energy may feel low. Our time may feel limited. Our lessons may feel simple. But when we place what we have in Jesus' hands, He can multiply it far beyond what we can imagine.

God uses small, faithful offerings, kind words, patient hearts, prepared lessons, and loving presence to make a lasting impact in the lives of children. What feels ordinary to us can become extraordinary when God is at work.

What has God placed in your hands this week—your time, your gifts, your willingness? How can you offer it to Him?

# WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

## WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

## MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me”:

The Lord is my strength and my shield.  
Psalm 28:7  
*(repeat 2x)*

## THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

**Toddlers & Twos:** Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

**Threes & Fours:** Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

# ACTIVITY



Help children with an activity connected to the Bible lesson.

## ACTIVITY: FISH AND LOAVES PICNIC

Have a picnic as a class! Lay out the provided picnic blanket on the ground. Use the fish and loaves in the basket to teach today's Bible lesson.

What a miracle it was to feed all those people and have baskets and baskets of leftovers! Give thanks for food and the abundance we have. Pray for children around the world who are without.





## BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Lots of people wanted to hear Jesus teach. One day, a huge crowd followed Jesus into the countryside. There were more than 5,000 people! They were all getting hungry.

Jesus told the disciples to feed the people. The disciples said there were too many people to feed. But Andrew brought a young boy with a packed lunch to Jesus. The boy had five loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus prayed and thanked God for the boy's lunch. He told the disciples to share it with all the people.

The bread and fish never ran out! The more they gave, the more food appeared. Everyone ate until they were full. When they finished, there were twelve baskets of food left, all from one boy's little packed lunch.

## THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Lots of people wanted to hear Jesus teach. A huge crowd of people followed Jesus to a remote place. There were more than 5,000 men, plus woman and children. They were all getting hungry.

The disciples told Jesus to send the people away to find food. But Jesus told the disciples to feed them. The disciples knew this would be impossible. It would cost too much money. But Andrew brought a young boy with a packed lunch to Jesus.

The boy had five bread rolls and two fish. Jesus took the lunch. He prayed and said thank you to God for the food. Next, He began handing bread and fish to people. Something amazing happened.

The bread and fish never ran out. The more they gave, the more food appeared. Everyone ate until they were full. When they finished, the disciples picked up the leftovers. There were twelve baskets of food left, all from one boy's little packed lunch.

**KEY POINTS:** God can do the impossible. • God cares about our needs. • God can use small things to do great things.

# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. How many loaves and fish did the boy have?
4. Who can use small things to make great things? God can use small things to make great things!

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**