

Lesson 16

-Jesus Feeds Five Thousand-

Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

2-5 Years:

Opening Prayer to welcome the start of the session. For example:

“Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet in your presence once again. Please help us to learn more about your work. Help us to do the good things that you want us to do. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the children the story of Jesus using only two fish and five loaves of barley bread to feed the five thousand people (John 6: 1-13). You can use a children’s bible to tell the story or just tell it in such a way that this age group will understand.

John
6: 1-13

Discussion:

Ask the children what they can share with other people. Many will talk about toys they can share. Explain to them that they can share their happiness and love too, by smiling at others and by giving hugs.

Cooking Time:

Have the children help you make a trail mix. Have them take turns dumping the ingredients into the bowl. Then let them help you stir it together with a big wooden spoon.

Need: 1 large bowl

1 or 2 wooden spoons

1 pkg. of raisins

1 pkg. of chex cereal or fruit loops

1 pkg. of m&m's

1 pkg. of marshmallows

Snack size haggies (enough for each child to have 3)

After the trail mix has been prepared, put some into each of the baggies. Explain to the children that one baggie is for them and the rest are for them to share with two other people.

Song:

Sing the song Share to the tune of "BINGO"

When I play with my friend,
we like to share,

S H A R E

S H A R E

S H A R E

Sharing is God's way.



Closing Prayer asking God to help us share. For example:

Dear God, thank you for our class today. Help us to share our toys and our happiness and love. Keep us safe in your name. Amen."

6-8 Years:

Opening Prayer to welcome the start of the class. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us here together once again. Help us to learn more about you and to do the things you want us to do. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the children the story of Jesus using only two fish and five loaves of barley bread to feed the five thousand people (John 6: 1-13). You can use a children’s bible to tell the story or just tell it in such a way that this age group will understand.



John
6: 1-13

Discussion:

Ask the children what they can share with their friends and family members. Explain that toys and food are not the only things we can share. We can share attitudes also. Discuss ways that they can share positive attitudes with others.

Activity:

Give the children a paper and crayons or markers. Let them color a picture and give it to another classmate.

Cooking Time:

Have the children help you make a trail mix. Have them take turns dumping the ingredients into the bowl. Then let them help you stir it together with a big wooden spoon.

- Need: 1 large bowl
- 1 or 2 wooden spoons
- 1 pkg. of raisins
- 1 pkg. of chex cereal or fruit loops
- 1 pkg. of m&m’s
- 1 pkg. of marshmallows
- Snack size baggies (enough for each child to have 3)

After the trail mix has been prepared, put some into each of the baggies. Explain to the children that one baggie is for them and the rest are for them to share with two other people.

Closing Prayer asking God to help us share. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for our class today. Help us to share our things and our good attitudes. Please keep us safe in your name. Amen.”

9-11 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, we thank you for allowing us to meet in your presence today. Help us to learn more about you and do what you want us to do. Amen.”

Discussion:

Ask the children what they have that they can share. Explain to them that they can share not only toys but also attitudes and abilities. Ask them what attitudes they can share. Then ask what happens when they share positive attitudes and what happens when they share negative attitudes. Discuss what abilities people share.

Bible Story:

Choose several students to rotate reading the story about Jesus feeding the five thousand people in John 6: 1-13.



John
6: 1-13

Discussion:

Refer back to the discussion before the Bible story. Explain to the children that they can share not only toys but also attitudes and abilities. Ask them what attitudes they can share. Then ask what happens when they share positive attitudes and what happens when they share negative attitudes. Discuss what abilities people share.

Activity:

Have the students write abilities and attitudes that they can share on a rubber band. Tell them to write as many as they can. After everyone has finished writing, have them line up next to each other. Have them take turns shooting their rubber bands toward a shoe box. As each student shoots their rubber band have them say this prayer, “Jesus, help my sharing go a long way.” After everyone has had the chance to shoot theirs, have them pick up their rubber band. Then talk to the students about how Jesus stretched the food that the boy brought a long way. Have each student turn to a partner and tell them something that they wrote on their rubber band.

Closing Prayer to ask God for help in sharing attitudes and abilities. For example:

Dear God, thank you for our lesson today. Thank you for bringing us together and helping us to learn more about you. Help us to share our positive attitudes with others. Also help us to share our abilities in order to make a difference in other people’s lives. Amen.”

12-14 Years:

Opening Prayer to start the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together in fellowship with each other. Help us to learn from your words. Help us to gain a better understanding of you as we study together. Amen.”

Bible Reading:

Appoint several readers and have each read a verse until they have completed the reading of John 6: 1-13.



John
6: 1-13

Discussion:

Ask the students how they think the boy who brought the food felt when Jesus fed all of those people with the little bit of food that he had brought. Ask them what they have that they can share with others. Remind them that material objects are not the only thing that we can share. Explain that we can also share our attitudes and our abilities. Ask them what attitudes we should share with others and why and what attitudes we should not share with others and why. Ask what kinds of abilities they each have that they can share. Ask them how sharing their abilities can make a difference in others' lives.

Activity:

Have the students share one of their abilities with the class. For example if they have the ability to sing, have them lead the class in a song, or if their ability is to speak, have them lead a future class, and so on.

Closing Prayer to ask God to help us share our attitudes and abilities. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for leading us in our study this morning. Help us to continue to follow in your ways. Help us to share our positive attitudes with those around us. Also help us to share our abilities that you gave us for your good. Keep us safe in your name. Amen.”