



Feeding the Big Crowd

Lesson Aim: To know by sharing with others,
you can be part of God's miracles.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as the God of Wonders

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 6:3-13

What He Has Done: Jesus fed the big crowd.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Share with others."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your miracles." Psalm 77:11

Unit 1: Jesus as the God of Wonders			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus' First Miracle, John 2:1-11	Jesus did miracles so people would believe.	To remember Jesus did miracles.
2	Filling the Nets, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus filled the nets with fish and called His followers.	To know miracles can help people decide to follow Jesus.
3	Calming the Storm, Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calmed the wind and the waves.	To see Jesus' power.
4	Healing Jairus' Daughter, Luke 8:40-42, 49-56	Jesus healed a twelve-year old girl.	To know Jesus can heal us.
5	Feeding the Big Crowd, John 6:3-13	Jesus fed the big crowd.	To know by sharing with others, you can be part of God's miracles.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 111:1-5. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for Your provision. Inspire the children to share and distribute their resources to Your people. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a loaf of bread
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Share with others."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Will Remember" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Be Still and Know" "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Heal Me, O Lord" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "We Love" Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 1, Lesson 5
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: John 6:3-13	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at John 6:9 Visual: A picture of five loaves of bread and two fish
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Two Fish and Five Loaves	Paper lunch bags, clay, sturdy paper, wiggle eyes, crayons or markers, tape or glue, label
		Game: Share With Others	Seven small beanbags (or soft, easy-to-toss items), basket
		Snack: Act It Out	Fish-shaped crackers, bread, water, small plastic bags, basket, cloth
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 1, Lesson 5 Color This Story: "Jesus Fed the Big Crowd"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: John 6:3-13	None
	Up to 10	Game: Wedding Dance	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Remember"
	Up to 10	Game: Miracle Ball	Soft ball
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about any of Jesus' miracles

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Share with others

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a loaf of bread. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of bread help you remember Jesus fed the big crowd. Today's Whisper Verse is "share with others."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Share with others."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

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|------------------|--|
| "Share" | Both hands are open with fingers together. Sweep the outside of the right hand pinky finger back and forth along the left hand's index finger and thumb. |
| "with" | Bring both fists together in front of the body so the second knuckles of each fist are together. |
| "others." | The right hand creates the letter "A" hand shape by making a closed fist with the thumb resting on the outside of the index finger. Beginning with the thumb pointing to the left, rotate the arm and wrist outward so the thumb ends pointing to the right. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Share with others," Hebrews 13:16b. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the God of Wonders

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help the children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus who is the God of Wonders. Wonders are miracles. A miracle is an amazing surprise from God. Today, we will learn about a miracle in which a boy shared his fish and bread. Jesus used the boy's lunch to feed a huge crowd. The boy shared his food with Jesus, and Jesus blessed it and shared it with the big crowd. That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse. Let's try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: "Share with others." Include sign language.



When Jesus fed a huge crowd with just two fish and five loaves—it was a miracle! Let's praise Him for all the miracles Jesus does. Sing: "He Is Mighty to Save" and "Let Everything That Has Breath."

The boy shared the food he had. Jesus blessed it and used it to feed a big crowd of people. The boy who shared got to be a part of that miracle! By sharing with others, we can be part of God's miracles, too. Now, as we give our offering, let's ask God to use it to do miracles in the lives of people all over the world. Play: "Jesus Loves Me" or "We Love" while collecting the offering.



Let's find out what Delbert & Lello know about the day Jesus fed the big crowd. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 1, Lesson 5.



The boy who shared his bread and fish saw Jesus use it to do a miracle. Whenever you eat bread or fish, remember the miracles Jesus did such as feeding the big crowd. When we remember His miracles and share them with others, that's worship. Sing: "I Will Remember."



Jesus fed the big crowd

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Jesus healed the 12 year-old girl. Today, we will learn about the time Jesus fed a big crowd of people. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to John 6:9.

WATCH THE WORD: JOHN 6:3-13

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a picture of five loaves of bread and two fish. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Jesus and His friends were on a mountainside
- And a large crowd gathered around.
- He said, "Philip, where shall we buy them bread?"
- They had no money to feed the crowd.

- Andrew found five loaves and two fish
- From a boy in the crowd.
- Jesus told the crowd to sit on the grass.
- He blessed the food and passed it around.

- Jesus fed 5,000 people that day
- Bread and fish they each did enjoy.
- And 12 baskets were filled with leftovers
- All from one meal from just one boy.



What did the boy share with Jesus? (Five loaves of bread and two fish.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read John 6:9 from the teacher's Bible.

The boy shared two fish and five small loaves with Jesus. That reminds me of our Whisper Verse. Turn to your neighbor and say, "Share with others." Include sign language or hand motions.



We can share with others

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: TWO FISH AND FIVE LOAVES

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Jesus feeding the big crowd.

Supplies: Paper lunch bags, clay, sturdy paper, wiggle eyes, crayons or markers, tape or glue, label

Prepare: Cut two small fish shapes out of sturdy paper for each child. Fold down the top of the lunch bags until the bags are half the original height. On a label, print:

Jesus Fed the Big Crowd

John 6:3-13

Optional: Use purchased children's play dough or make your own. Draw or use stickers for eyes. Use cloth bags or paper pockets instead of paper bags.

Directions:

1. Give each child a handful of clay.
2. Children make five small loaves of bread from their ball of clay.
3. Children place the loaves of bread in their lunch sack.
4. Give each child two fish.
5. Attach a wiggle eye to each fish. Decorate with crayons or markers.
6. Place the two fish in your lunch bag with the loaves of bread.
7. Place the label on the bag.
8. If there is time, children may decorate their lunch bags.

Craft Discussion:

- **How many small fish did the boy share?** (Two.)
- **Who did Jesus share the fish and loaves with?** (The crowd.)
- **How many baskets were filled with leftovers?** (Twelve.)
- **Who remembers our Whisper Verse? Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **The Bible says, "Share with others." With whom can you share the story of this miracle?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: SHARE WITH OTHERS

Purpose: To help children experience sharing and imagine being part of the miracle.

Supplies: 7 small beanbags (or soft, easy-to-toss items), basket

Imagine being in the crowd that day when Jesus fed everyone from one boy's meal. Let's pretend that these beanbags are the boy's 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle. Place the "Leftovers Basket" in the center of the circle.
2. Pass a beanbag "bread loaf" around the circle as each child pretends to tear off and eat some.
3. When passing the bread to the next child in the circle, each child should say and sign, "Share with others."
4. After the last child pretends to eat some bread, he or she tosses it into the "Leftovers Basket."
5. Pass another beanbag. Call it "fish" and ask children to share it as they did with the bread.
6. Play 7 rounds until 5 "bread loaves" and 2 "fish" have been tossed into the "Leftover Basket."

Optional: Time the children to see if they can pass each bread loaf or fish faster than previous ones. Make sure each child has a chance to toss a loaf or fish into the Leftover Basket.

SNACK: ACT IT OUT

Purpose: Children will eat a snack while acting out the miracle of feeding the big crowd.

Snack Suggestion: Fish-shaped crackers, bread, water, small plastic bags, basket, cloth

Prepare: Divide the snack into individual servings and place each serving in a separate plastic bag. Place all of the bags in a basket. Cover the basket with a cloth.

Let's use our snack time to act out the story of Jesus feeding the big crowd.

Directions:

1. **Assign roles: Jesus, Philip, Andrew, and the boy. Everyone else is part of the crowd. Give a snack bag to the boy.**
2. **Tell the following story. Help children act it out as you prompt them.**
 - **One day, Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with His disciples.** Jesus, Philip, and Andrew go and sit in the far corner of the room.
 - **Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward Him.** The rest of the children move to stand near Jesus.
 - **Jesus asked Philip, "Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?"** Jesus repeats quote.
 - **But, Jesus already knew what He was going to do. Philip said, "We do not have money to buy enough food."** Philip repeats quote.
 - **Andrew found a boy with five small loaves of bread and two small fish.** Andrew brings boy with snack bag to Jesus.
 - **Jesus said to the crowd, "Please be seated."** Jesus repeats quote.
 - **Jesus took the bread and gave thanks.** Jesus puts boy's snack on the cloth in the basket.

(Continued on the next page.)

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: ACT IT OUT (continued)

- Let's sing the "Blessing Song." Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
 - After the blessing, Jesus passed out bread to anyone who was seated. Jesus gave them as much as they wanted. And He did the same with the fish. "Jesus" gives basket to teacher. Reach under the cloth to retrieve and pass out 1 snack bag to each child. Children eat their snacks.
 - Everyone had all they wanted to eat. Children pretend to be happy and full.
 - There were 12 basketfuls of leftovers! Refill each child's bag and reseal.
 - Let's seal our bags and take our leftovers home to share this snack and tell our families about this miracle!
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
- Who remembers our Whisper Verse? Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Share with others."
 - Just like we do, Jesus seated everyone, said the blessing, and passed the food around. Do you have a special mealtime blessing in your home?



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Two Fish and Five Loaves" craft. Use it to tell someone the story of Jesus feeding the big crowd.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. Show this card to your family. Talk about ways you can share with others this week.

COLOR THIS STORY: "Jesus Fed the Big Crowd." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Will Remember," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: JOHN 6:3-13

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus and his friends were on the mountainside** (Make mountain shape with hands.)
- **And a large crowd gathered around.** (Open arms wide.)
- **He said, "Philip, where shall we buy them bread?"** (Palms up as if asking a question.)
- **They had no money to feed the crowd.** (Show empty pockets.)

- **Andrew found five loaves and two fish** (Raise 5 fingers on left hand, 2 fingers on right.)
- **From one boy in the crowd.** (Raise index finger.)
- **Jesus told the crowd to sit on the grass.** (Point to ground.)
- **He blessed the food and passed it around.** (Fold hands in prayer.)

- **Jesus fed 5,000 people that day** (Wave five fingers.)
- **Bread and fish they each did enjoy.** (Pat belly.)
- **And 12 baskets were filled with leftovers** (Clap hands to celebrate.)
- **All from one meal from just one boy.** (Raise index finger.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your miracles." Psalm 77:11

GAME: WEDDING DANCE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Remember"

The Lord wants us to remember His words in the Bible. Let's pretend we are dancing at a wedding as we sing our Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Remember."

Directions:

1. Play Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Remember" or teacher may sing without accompaniment.
2. Encourage children to sing, dance, and create motions to help them remember the words.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: MIRACLE BALL

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Soft ball for rolling

The Lord wants us to remember His deeds and miracles. Deeds are actions or things God has done. Miracles are amazing surprises from God. When the ball rolls to you, we will say our Bible Memory Verse together and then you tell us about a miracle God has done for you or your family.

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. Roll ball to first child.
3. While child holds ball, children recite or echo together: **"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your miracles!"**
4. First child then tells about a deed or miracle.
5. Child rolls ball to another child.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 until each child has a turn.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about any of Jesus' miracles.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 1, Lesson 5: Feeding the Big Crowd

PONDER! Read John 6:3-13 with your family. How many people will two small fish and five pieces of bread feed? Imagine that same amount of food feeding 5,000 people and having 12 baskets of leftovers!

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for the food You provide each day for our family. Help us share with others and be a part of Your miracles. Amen."

PLAY! Food Share! Make and wrap sandwiches or collect canned food from your neighbors. Share this food with needy people in your community. Ask Jesus to provide them with all they need.

Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 77:11

"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your miracles."