



2011

Go And Make Disciples

The Cross and Beyond

Lesson 33: Jesus Feeds a Huge Crowd

Scripture

Matthew 14:1-21
 Mark 6:12-44
 Luke 9:10-17
 John 6:1-15

Memory Verse

Nothing is impossible for God!
 Luke 1:37 (CEV)

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus cared for the people.

Understand that Jesus can make a lot out of a little.

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do **NOT** read to the children.

We have learned a lot about Jesus’ travels back and forth across the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee was important to the people who lived around it. There were many harbors because of the fishing industry. The Sea of Galilee was important to Jesus, as well. Jesus spent most of the three years of His ministry along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. More than half of His parables were shared there and most of His miracles were performed there.*

So we shouldn’t be surprised that, when Jesus received word that Herod had killed His cousin, John the Baptist, He “wanted to be alone.” (Matthew 14:13b NIV) Jesus wanted to pray and He told His disciples, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place. You need to get some rest. So they went away by themselves in a boat to a quiet place.” (Mark 6:31b-32 NIV)

Once they arrived on the other side, They went up the mountain and sat together. “Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward Him.” (John 6:5a NIV) They had seen Jesus leave with His disciples and they had walked around the shore of the Sea of Galilee to be with Him.

Jesus didn’t shout or scream or stomp off to another place because He wanted time to Himself. “He felt deep concern for them. They were like sheep without a shepherd. So He began teaching them many things” about God’s kingdom. (Mark 6:34 NIV) He also healed their sick.

Later that day, the disciples came to Him. They thought Jesus should send the people away, before dark, to the surrounding towns so they could go find food. Jesus asked Philip, “Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to put Philip to the test. He already knew what He was going to do.” (John 6:5b-6)

Philip told Jesus that It would take more than 200 denarii (eight months’ pay) to buy enough bread just so each person could have a bite! Jesus asked them how many loaves of bread they had. Then He encouraged them to go find out. Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, met a young boy who brought his own lunch. He said, “There is a boy here who has five small loaves of barley bread and two fish. But what good is that with all these people?” (John 6:9 CEV) The situation seemed impossible to the disciples, but, “Nothing is impossible for God!” (Luke 1:37 CEV)

There were 5,000 men there, not counting the women and children. Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups of 50 and 100. They sat down on the grass.

Application

Our memory verse says, “Nothing is impossible for God!” (Luke 1:37 CEV)

Do you really believe that? Think about it. Are you afraid? Are you worried about something? Are you mad at God because you haven't gotten what you wanted? If you said “yes” to any of those then you may actually be doubting what our memory verse says. Talk to God and ask Him to help you trust Him.

Maybe you're not afraid or worried or mad at God for something you haven't gotten. Good for you! I hope it is because you realize that God loves you. He is a good God, a powerful God. Your faith and trust in Him will be an example to others around you. When they ask, be sure to tell them what an awesome God you serve!

Then “Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke them into pieces.” (Luke 9:16 NIV) Jesus gave the food to His disciples. The disciples gave the food to the people. Everyone there had enough to eat; in fact, they ate until they were full and satisfied.

Not only had everyone had enough to eat, there were even leftovers! “When all of them had enough to eat, Jesus spoke to His disciples. ‘Gather the leftover pieces,’ He said. ‘Don't waste anything.’” (John 6:12 NIV) When they had gathered the leftovers from the five barley loaves and two fishes, they filled twelve baskets! When the people saw this miracle, they knew that Jesus must be the Promised One from God that they had been waiting for.

How about you? Do you know that Jesus was sent from God? God sent Jesus, His one and only Son, so that you could have eternal life. Eternal life is yours if you believe in Him. (John 3:16) This belief is active. It is not simply saying in your mind, “Sure, I believe Jesus is God's Son.” This belief should express itself in trust and confidence. It also expresses itself in obedience to the One you choose to follow.

*Bolen, Todd. *Jesus and the Sea of Galilee*. March 6, 2009.

<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2009/03/Jesus-and-the-Sea-of-Galilee.aspx#Article>

Preparing for the Next Lesson

Jesus Walks on Water



Preschool Lesson

Teachers:

Bring a basket with five small loaves of bread and two sardines.

We have talked a lot lately about the Sea of Galilee. Jesus spent a lot of time there. One time, when He was sad, He went across the sea to pray. His disciples went with Him. When they got to the other side, they saw a large crowd coming toward them. The crowd had walked all the way around the shore of the Sea of Galilee to be with Jesus.

Jesus didn't shout or scream or stomp off to another place because He wanted time to Himself. He cared about these people, so He began teaching them many things. He also healed their sick.

It got later and later and the people were still there. There was a problem, though. There were no stores or restaurants on that side of the sea. The disciples thought Jesus should send the people away. Jesus already knew what He was going to do.

Andrew, one of the disciples, met a young boy who brought his own lunch. He said, "There is a boy here who has five small loaves of bread and two fish. What good will that little bit do with all of these people?"

You see, there were 5,000 men there. That's not counting all the women and children. Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups of 50 and 100. They sat down in the grass.

Then "Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke them into pieces." (Luke 9:16 NIV) Jesus gave the food to His disciples. The disciples gave the food to the people. Everyone there had enough to eat; in fact, they ate until they were full and satisfied. Not only had everyone had enough to eat, there were even leftovers!



Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Make a memory verse poster. Start with a large sheet of construction paper. Weave strips of brown construction paper to represent a picnic basket. Cut out five brown circles and two gray fish. Glue them into the basket. Print the memory verse at the bottom of the page.
- Encourage your students to fill out the journal/note page found on page 8. This can be used during the story to help focus your students or after the story as a review.
- Bring sack lunches for a snack today.
- Reenact the lesson.
- Sing Faith, Faith, Faith,” “Little Is Much When God is In It,” “Breathe,” or another song related to the lesson.
- Find the Sea of Galilee on a map of Israel. Find a topographical map, if possible.
- Dig Deeper: Discuss the statement from the lesson “Philip told Jesus that It would take more than 200 denarii (eight months’ pay) to buy enough bread just so each person could have a bite!” A denarius was a Roman coin. The typical daily wage for a worker was 1 denarius a day. Two hundred denarii would have been the wage a worker would make if he worked 200 days!

NOTHING

is

impossible

for God!

Luke 1:37

Trace the letters.

JESUS

FED

5,000

Focus on the Story

○
Story Title:

Scripture References:

Main Characters:

Story Summary:

When?

○
Where?

What?

How?

○



Word Search

K Y O N R W O S U L W N R M S
C H J G N S O F S E A Y E R Y
E E E I S H E N N T N D E A T
V W S E L P I C S I D A V B N
G L U N C H U Y O U N G B O Y
E I S A C S J T T M A R R U L
S T V N S M R H A B S E Y T P
R S T E I H Y E L E U B D Y I
U O I N T E F H V T O S A O T
O D T S P H R E G O H Y Y U L
Y N S W U E A R F E T A E R U
L S I E K R E N M L E F L H M
T S I R H C R O K O V L E O L
O Y H W I R O S T S I A D L W
F L O A V E S A N D F I S H F

JESUS

DISCIPLES

YOUNG BOY

LUNCH

LOAVES AND FISH

GIVE THANKS

MULTIPLY

FIVE THOUSAND

LEFTOVERS



Word Search

K	Y	O	N	R	W	O	S	U	L	W	N	R	M	S
C	H	J	G	N	S	O	F	S	E	A	Y	E	R	Y
E	E	E	I	S	H	E	N	N	T	N	D	E	A	T
V	W	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	A	V	B	N
G	L	U	N	C	H	U	Y	O	U	N	G	B	O	Y
E	I	S	A	C	S	J	T	T	M	A	R	R	U	L
S	T	V	N	S	M	R	H	A	B	S	E	Y	T	P
R	S	T	E	I	H	Y	E	L	E	U	B	D	Y	I
U	O	I	N	T	E	F	H	V	T	O	S	A	O	T
O	D	T	S	P	H	R	E	G	O	H	Y	Y	U	L
Y	N	S	W	U	E	A	R	F	E	T	A	E	R	U
L	S	I	E	K	R	E	N	M	L	E	F	L	H	M
T	S	I	R	H	C	R	O	K	O	V	L	E	O	L
O	Y	H	W	I	R	O	S	T	S	I	A	D	L	W
F	L	O	A	V	E	S	A	N	D	F	I	S	H	F

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Preschool Word Search

R F S I J E S U S U R E
F I V E T H O U S A N D
H A P E M E N N T E W S
R B O Y I S H E N E D S
J E W O M H E A L Y L S
Q J E D I S C I P L E S
S T M U L T I P L Y R E
D A U G H T E R L D R S
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D L U N C H R D O R B N
L C H E L P E N E R S J
H E W A L K A N D E A T

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Preschool Word Search

R F S I J E S U S U R E
F I V E T H O U S A N D
H A P E M E N N T E W S
R B O Y I S H E N E D S
J E W O M H E A L Y L S
Q J E D I S C I P L E S
S T M U L T I P L Y R E
D A U G H T E R L D R S
M D I L T W E T E R T S
D L U N C H R D O R B N
L C H E L P E N E R S J
H E W A L K A N D E A T

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