

Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School: Lessons for Preschool – Kindergarten

Lesson 2.21: FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

Matthew 14: 13-21, Mark 6: 30-44, Luke 9: 10-17, and John 6:1—14

TEACHER PREPARATION

Read over Matthew 14: 13-21; Mark 6: 30-44; Luke 9: 10-17; and John 6:1-14.

WORSHIP CIRCLE

STORY AND DISCUSSION

One day, the Lord and His disciples felt tired. They got into a boat and sailed over to a place where they could be by themselves and rest. But some people saw where they were going. There were so many people that wanted to be near the Lord that great crowds of people followed Him wherever He went. So thousands of people came to where the Lord and His disciples were resting.

When the Lord saw all these people come to Him, He felt sorry for them, because He could see how much they needed His help. He loved them all so much that He wanted to help them. So the Lord began to teach them many things to show them how to be happy, and He also healed the people that were sick.

Now it was getting to be late in the day, and the disciples said, “Send these people away, so they can go buy some food to eat.” But the Lord said to the disciples, “You give them something to eat.”

The disciples knew they did not have enough money to buy enough food for thousands of people! The Lord told them to go see what food they could find nearby. The disciples found a little boy who had five loaves of bread and two fishes.

When the disciples brought the five loaves and two fishes to the Lord, He told all the thousands of people to sit down in groups. Then the Lord took the five loaves and two fishes. He looked up to heaven and blessed the bread, and broke it into pieces and gave them to His disciples to pass out to all the people. Then He divided up the fish to be passed out, too.

And a miracle happened. The Lord made just five loaves and two fishes turn into enough food to feed more than five thousand people! Everyone ate and ate until they were full, and after everyone was full, there were *still* enough leftover pieces to fill up twelve baskets!

The Lord is the One Who created all things. He could create more food for these people, because they needed it, and they believed in Him. The Lord is always there to help us, if we just open our hearts to Him.

RECITATION

Now we will say something from this story in the Lord's Word. I will say a part, and then you say it after me.

And He took the five loaves
and the two fish, . . .
and gave the loaves to the disciples;
and the disciples gave
to the multitudes.

(Note to Teacher: Explain that "multitudes" means crowds of people.)

PROJECT

Ahead of time:

1. In a small basket, put two stacks of "Goldfish Thins" crackers (Pepperidge Farm), and five piles of small dinner rolls. On the top, you should just see five rolls and two fish crackers.
2. Photocopy the picture of the feeding of the five thousand, so there is a copy for each child.

Doing the Project:

1. Act out the story. The teacher will be the Lord. Pick one boy to be the boy with the loaves and fish. Give him the basket, and have him sit a little off to the side. The other children will be the disciples. Talk about how the Lord had been teaching and healing the people.
2. Create the following scene either by asking if they remember what happened next and then having them do it, or by telling them what happened next and then having them do it:

DISCIPLES: "Send these people away, so they can go find food to eat."

LORD: "You find them something to eat."

DISCIPLES: "We don't have enough money to buy that much food!"

LORD: "Go and see what they have."

[Have the disciples go and find the boy and bring him to the Lord.]

DISCIPLES: "This boy has five loaves of bread and two fishes."*

[Lord looks to heaven and breaks the rolls into pieces, and tells the disciples to pass out the food to all the people. Tell the children to quietly go pass some out to the older Sunday School group, and then they can come back and have some. Make sure you have the extra rolls and crackers on hand so that everybody gets some. Tell them to imagine that there are still twelve baskets full of scraps! What a miracle!]

3. When this is all finished, the children can color the picture of the feeding of the five thousand.