

Sharing What We Have

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: Sharing what we have will always be used by Jesus

Scripture: John 6

Memory Verse: John 6:35, Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

The Children's Sermon

One day, Jesus did something very special. He took a small gift from a little boy and used it in a big way. This story shows us that Jesus can use the little things we offer to do great things. Just like the boy, we all have something we can share. Maybe we're good at talking to people and making them feel better when they're sad. Or perhaps we can share our time, our toys, or even our snacks with someone who doesn't have as much.

Jesus Feeds 5000 is a story that teaches us about sharing. Imagine if you had a small snack, and your friend didn't have any. By sharing a little of what you have, you can make your friend happy. This is what the boy in our story did. He had five loaves of bread and two fish, which doesn't seem like a lot for a big crowd. But he shared it with Jesus, and something amazing happened.

Jesus took the boy's small gift and made it into a big feast. With just five loaves and two fish, Jesus Feeds 5000 people! That's a lot of people, more than we can count on our fingers and toes. It shows us that when we give what we have to Jesus, He can do things with it that we can't even imagine.

Now, let's think about the gifts we have. It might be being good at sports and showing others how to play fair. When you play games without getting upset and follow the rules, you're showing Jesus' love. Other kids might see how you act and decide to be kind and fair too. Just like the story of Jesus Feeds 5000, your good actions can spread to many people.

Sharing doesn't just mean giving away things. It can also mean spending time with someone who feels lonely or helping out at home without being asked. Every time you do something kind, it's like giving Jesus a little gift. And remember, Jesus can use that gift to do something wonderful.

In the story of Jesus Feeds 5000, the boy's small act of sharing led to a big miracle. Everyone in the crowd got enough to eat, and there were even leftovers. This teaches us that when we share, not only does it help others, but there's often more than enough to go around.

Now, I have these plates with loaves and fish, just like in our story. If you had one, what would you do? The boy in the story shared his, and that's what Jesus wants us to do too. Sharing might feel hard sometimes. We might worry our things could get broken or lost. But Jesus tells us to share anyway because He can do great things with our small acts of kindness.

When the boy shared his food, everyone was fed. That's a pretty cool ending, right? And guess what? I have enough snacks here for everyone! It's a little reminder that when we share, there's always enough to go around.

Let's say a prayer together. Dear Jesus, help us to share like the boy in the story. We want to give what we have to you, knowing you can do amazing things with it. Thank you for teaching us that no gift is too small for you to use. Amen.

Remember, kids, the story of Jesus Feeds 5000 is not just about food. It's about sharing, kindness, and the amazing things that can happen when we give a little. So, let's go out this week and find small ways to share with others. You never know what big things Jesus might do with your small acts of kindness!

Bible Memory Verse

John 6:35, Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

You Will Need:

- Plain paper plates
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers of bread, fish, or other food (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the paper plates into large bread slice shapes beforehand.
- If you don't have food stickers, draw simple bread and fish shapes on a sheet of stickers or paper to be cut out.

Do This:

1. Give each child a 'bread slice' paper plate and markers or crayons. Explain that the plate represents the bread of life, which is Jesus.

2. Ask the children to decorate their bread slice with markers, crayons, and stickers. While they work, talk to them about how Jesus takes care of our needs and how sharing what we have can help others feel Jesus' love.
3. Once everyone is done decorating, gather the children in a circle. Encourage them to share their bread slice with the person next to them, explaining something they are thankful for. This activity helps illustrate the concept of sharing and how Jesus uses what we share to help others.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Small loaves of bread (or fish-shaped crackers for a more symbolic approach)
- Basket
- Small paper fishes and loaves (for crafts)
- Glue sticks
- Large paper or poster board

Get Ready:

- Place the small loaves of bread or fish-shaped crackers into the basket.
- Cut out paper fishes and loaves for each child to have several.
- Prepare a large paper or poster board to create a collective mural.

Do this:

1. Begin by telling the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 with five loaves and two fish, emphasizing how a little boy shared what he had and Jesus used it to do something amazing.
2. Pass around the basket of bread or fish-shaped crackers, inviting each child to take one and say something they can share with others (toys, time, help).

3. Use the glue sticks and paper fishes and loaves to let each child create their addition to the mural, placing their items as a symbol of what they can share. As they work, reinforce the idea that sharing what we have allows Jesus to use it to bless others.

Snack Activity: Fish and Loaves Sharing Snack

You'll Need:

- Sliced bread
- Fish-shaped crackers
- Small plates
- Napkins

Get Ready: Use cookie cutters or a knife (adults only) to cut the bread into small, bite-sized pieces resembling loaves. Place the fish-shaped crackers in a bowl.

Do this:

1. Tell the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 with five loaves and two fish, emphasizing how a small boy shared what he had and Jesus used it to feed many.
2. Give each child a small plate and let them take a few pieces of the 'loaf' bread and a couple of fish-shaped crackers, explaining that just like in the story, we can share what we have with others.
3. Encourage the children to share their snack with someone else in the class, showing that when we share, there's always enough to go around, just like Jesus showed us.

Game Activity: Fish & Loaves Relay

You'll Need:

- Basket

- Plastic fish and loaves (or pictures of fish and bread)
- Two lines marked on the ground

Get Ready: Place the basket at one end of the play area and mark two lines on the ground about 10 feet apart. Distribute an equal number of fish and loaves between the starting line and the basket.

Do this:

1. Divide the children into two teams and have them line up at the starting line.
2. On 'Go', the first child in each line races to the basket, picks up one fish or loaf, and races back to tag the next child in line.
3. The next child then races to the basket to pick up another fish or loaf, and so on, until all the fish and loaves are collected.
4. Once all items are collected, gather the children and explain how sharing what we have, like the boy with the fish and loaves, can help others and be used by Jesus to do great things.

Craft Activity: Five Loaves and Two Fish

You'll Need:

- Construction paper (brown and green)
- Cotton balls
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons

Get Ready: Pre-cut the construction paper into fish and loaf shapes (5 loaves and 2 fish per child).

Do this:

1. Give each child a piece of green construction paper to represent grass. Have them use markers or crayons to decorate it.
2. Show the children how to glue the cotton balls onto their fish shapes to make them look fluffy. This represents how Jesus can make a little bit of food enough for everyone.
3. Help the children glue their five loaves and two fish onto the green paper. While they do this, talk about how sharing what we have, like the little boy in the story, can help others and that Jesus uses our sharing to do great things.

Prayer Activity: Little Loaves and Fishes Prayer

You'll Need:

- Small basket
- Paper fish and loaves (cut outs)
- Crayons or markers

Get Ready: Before the activity, cut out paper fish and loaves. You may want to do this ahead of time or have older kids help with this task. Make sure you have enough for each child to have at least one fish and one loaf.

Do this:

1. Tell the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 with five loaves and two fish, focusing on the theme that sharing what we have can be used by Jesus to do great things.
2. Give each child a paper fish and loaf. Let them color and decorate their fish and loaves with crayons or markers.

3. Once they are done, gather the fish and loaves into the basket. Lead the children in a prayer, thanking Jesus for always providing for us and asking for help to share what we have with others. Encourage the children to place their fish and loaves into the basket as a symbol of offering what they have to Jesus.