



Date: _____

Series: Jesus Our Helper
Winter Year 1, Lesson 42

Jesus Feeds 5,000

Bible Event: Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-15

Take Home Point: *JESUS HELPS US – *Pray for your needs.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: We can pray to Jesus anytime: he is always ready to listen and answer us.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn in the Bible event of Jesus feeding the five thousand people. They will learn that God does provide for our needs, as well. They will learn a little bit about the difference between needs and wants. Needs are those things like air, food, water, clothing, and shelter that we need to live. Wants are the things we simply want in addition to our needs but we could still live without. God is interested in knowing both our needs and our wants. Above all, he wants to meet our greatest need. He wants to give us salvation and life through Jesus. Kids will leave with this important point: ***JESUS HELPS US – *Pray for your needs.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs, their offerings and their actions of love in their worship experience.

Kids Church Year 1 - Lesson 42 - 1



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: A Visit from the Traveler

The traveler is a character costumed in traveling gear: backpack, walking stick, hiking hat and shoes. He explains that he has traveled all around the world discovering wonderful deeds that God has done. He tells of an adventure he just discovered in God's Word as he pulls the Bible out of his backpack. As he tells the Bible event, he pulls out objects from his backpack that illustrate the story.

Jesus Feeds 5000

Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15

Prop suggestions:

- Bible
- Lunchbox
- Large grocery sack with a false bottom
- Goldfish crackers
- Oyster crackers

Hi boys and girls. I'm the traveler. I've been on such a long journey that I am tired and hungry. Let me sit down and eat my lunch. (I look at my backpack and here is my lunchbox.) Oh, but wait a minute, where is your lunch, boys and girls? Are you feeling a little hungry, too? Oh my, what shall we do? This reminds me of something very special that happened in the Bible. Let me get out my Bible and check. Aaah, here it is. In Luke, chapter 9, Jesus feeds 5000 people. Let me tell you what really happened along time ago when Jesus lived among us as a man.

A long time ago, there was a large crowd of people who followed Jesus up onto a hillside. They had heard about all of the wonderful things he was doing and wanted to follow him. There were 5000 people! And that was just counting the men, and not the women and children. How many is the number 5000? Is there 5000 people in this room? No way! 5000 is so big, that if you started counting like this: 1, 2, 3, 4.... (Count a few children) at breakfast and never took a single break, you wouldn't finish counting until lunchtime! That's how big 5000 is!

So, there were all of these people and it was time to eat. (Pull out grocery sack – false bottom filled with goldfish and oyster crackers – top section empty.) **Can someone come get some food out of the sack to pass out for everyone.** (Child comes up, looks in sack and tells everyone that it's empty. Carefully show the kids that it is empty without letting the false bottom flap. Tip open.)



That's what exactly what happened to the disciples. Jesus told them to go feed the 5000 people, and when they got their food baskets out, they were empty! In fact, no one there had any food at all, except for one little boy who had his lunch. He had two tiny fish and five small pieces of bread. He gave his lunch to the disciples, but they knew it wasn't enough for everybody. They took it to Jesus and asked what to do. What do you think Jesus would say?

Jesus took the two teeny fish and five small loaves and he looked to heaven and prayed. Let's pray too. Let's fold our hands and look up to heaven like Jesus did. "Dear God, Thank you for taking care of all of our needs. We need food to eat. We know that you give it to us. Please feed us and teach us to trust you for all of our needs. In Jesus' Name, Amen" So now I will take these teeny fish and small loaves and put them in my big sack. After Jesus prayed, he told the disciples to hand out the fish and bread. Let me reach into the sack now and pull out fish and bread to be passed around. Do you think there will be enough in here for everyone? Let's see. I'll need some helpers to pass out crackers when I pull them out of the sack. Here's one handful. Pass those out.

Boys and girls, hold one hand out and we'll put some fish and loaves in your home. Let's see if there is more? Oh-h-, here's another handful... here is another handful..... My! Where is it all coming from? I'm reaching in the bag and here is another handful and another..... There is plenty of food for everyone. That is exactly what happened when Jesus made a miracle. Food just kept appearing, enough to feed everyone. Jesus told the disciples to go pick up the leftover food after everyone had eaten. And do you know what? There were TWELVE whole baskets left over! Let's count to twelve together. One, two, three..... Jesus knew that all of those people needed to eat that day, so he prayed to God for what they needed and everyone had what they wanted. Remember: ***JESUS HELPS US – Pray for your needs.**

Let's pray together.

Dear God, (repeat)
Thank you for being here. (repeat)
Thank you for sending Jesus. (repeat)
Jesus helps us. (repeat)
He takes care of all our needs. (repeat)
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! (repeat)
Amen. (repeat)

Boys and girls, before I leave, I need to tell you a secret. What Jesus did in feeding all those people was really a miracle. There is no other way to explain it. But did I do a miracle today when I had all those extra crackers in the sack? No, it wasn't a miracle, it was a secret trick. But I can't tell you the secret. I just want you to remember how Jesus fed the 5000.



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Two goldfish crackers and five Ritz bits or small pieces of bread for each child. Option: gummy fish.

Drama Zone: Let children play house. Have them classify household objects and activities as wants or needs. Examples: clothing, T.V., dinner, dessert, etc.

Craft Zone: Use the page from the appendix that says, “Jesus loves you and so do I.” Give each child a page and let them cut the fish and bread apart and decorate them using markers or crayons. Then give each child a small paper bag that they can put the fish and bread into. Explain to the children that when Jesus shared the food with the people, he was sharing his love as well. Instruct them to give the messages to their friends this week so they can share just like Jesus did.

Play Zone: Sort and count. Provide small baskets or paper cups as well as small plastic fish, goldfish crackers, beans, poker chips, stickers, etc. Have children count and sort objects using key numbers from the lesson – 2, 5, 7, 12, 5000 (counting by thousands).

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books.

Coloring Zone: Color page with markers and crayons.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

***Purpose:** As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.*

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

***Purpose:** The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.*

Bubba is on stage acting a little sad. He has a bike that he likes, but it's getting a little too small and it has training wheels. He would really like to have a new big bike with no training wheels. He discusses this with the presenter.

The presenter explains the difference between our needs and our wants. Needs are things we must have in order to live. Needs include air to breathe, food and water, clothes, and a home. Needs also include people to love us. Wants, on the other hand, are those things we want but if we didn't have them, we could still live.

Every person has needs and wants. We especially want to ask God to help us with our needs but can we ask him to help us with our wants? Can we ask for something like a new bicycle without training wheels? Of course we can. God will help us, but we must remember that he may not answer our prayers just the way we like. We may not be able to have every want that we want.

The presenter tells Bubba to think about today's Bible event. A whole lot of people needed food and Jesus provided everything they needed. When we pray for things we need, God listens and takes care of us. And you know what? Sometimes it's even okay. to pray for some things we want. God is interested not only with our serious times when we need things, but also in our happy times when we have wants.

And here's a true story. There once was a little girl who wanted a new bike, too. She already had one, but she wanted a new different kind with special brakes. She was seven years old when she decided she wanted this bike and started praying. Count with me. She started praying when she was 7 and prayed when she was 8 and 9 and 10 and 11 and 12 all the way to 13! And when she was 13, her dad happened to go past a garage sale, and found a bike with special brakes and got it for her! And do you know what she thought when she got that bike? She was very happy that God answered her prayer even if it took a long time. Remember: ***JESUS HELPS US – Pray for your needs.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: *Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.*

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- your choice of a video
- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- Traveler's backpack gear
- Bible
- lunchbox
- large grocery sack with false bottom
- goldfish crackers
- oyster crackers

Action Zones:

Snack:

- goldfish crackers and Ritz bits
- option: bread

Craft:

- page from the appendix that says: "Jesus loves you and so do I."
- markers, crayons, or decorating materials
- small paper bags

Play:

- small baskets or paper cups
- plastic fish, goldfish crackers
- beans, poker chips, stickers

Quiet Reading:

- basket of book

Drama:

- playing house

Coloring

- coloring page
- markers or crayons

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books

