

City SG - February 16-17, 2019

Bible Story: Give a Little Bit (Feeding 5,000) • *John 6:1-13*

Bottom Line: Use what you have to serve others.

Memory Verse: “Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to him. Then he said, ‘Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.’” *Mark 9:35, NIV*

1. Race to Feed the 5,000

What You Need: Fish/Bread cards (2 sets of cards per group), cones (2 per group), white board (2 per group), small paper plate (2 per group), large paper plate (2 per group)

What You Do:

- Divide your group into teams of two.
- Give each team a white board as a serving tray and a small plate.
- Give one fish and one bread cutout for each kid on the team.
- Mark a starting line using a small cone.
- Mark a finish line using the other cone on the opposite side of your space.
- Place large plates on each side of the finish line cone, one for each team.
- Explain that the first person in line must put a piece of bread and a fish on their small plate and place the plate on their “serving tray”. They will then answer a review question (you may have to repeat each question if players don’t return at the same time), carry their serving tray to the finish line, drop off their food on their team’s large plate, and race back to let the next person in line have a try.
- Explain that if they drop their food, they must pick it up and continue racing.
- The first team to drop off all their food on their team’s large plate is the winner!
 - **NOTE: If the children are engaging well with the activity, try different variations like: hopping on one foot, walking backwards, skipping, spinning, etc.**

Review Questions:

1. How many people needed to be fed? (*More than 5,000*)
2. What did Jesus tell the disciples? (*To figure out how to feed the people*)
3. How did the disciples react? (*They did not think they would be able to find food for that many people*)
4. Who did Jesus use to feed the people? (*A young boy*)
5. What did he use to feed the people? (*The boy’s lunch*)
6. What was in the boy’s lunch? (*Two fish and five loaves of bread*)
7. What did Jesus do before he fed everyone? (*He thanked God*)
8. What happened to the food? (*It got multiplied; it increased*)
9. Did they have enough food, and was there any left? (*Yes, there were leftovers*)
10. What does this story mean for me and you? (*We can use what we have to serve others*)

What You Say:

“What do you think Jesus was thinking about when He decided to feed 5,000 people with the loaves of bread and a few fish? He seemed pretty calm about it all! He knew we could **[Bottom Line] use what you have to serve others.** I know it sometimes feels like we need to have more in order to serve and give things away. Maybe for you, you wish you had more time.

Maybe you don't think you can afford to let go of that toy you love so much or give up an hour of playing video games. But here's the thing: God wants us to use what we have to serve others! I don't know about you, but I am honored He wants to use me to serve people. That's a pretty cool thing."

[Make It Personal] (Share a personal example of how God used you had to serve someone in a really cool way.)

2. Serving Picture Charades

What You Need: Whiteboards (1 per group), dry erase markers (1 per group), dry erase erasers (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Brainstorm with your group ways that they can serve the list of people in their community (#1-10 below)
 - Example: Mom→Wash Dishes
- Write down list on dry erase board, and ask kids to give examples of how to serve each person.
 1. Mom→(Example: Wash Dishes)
 2. Mail carrier→Shovel Snow
 3. Garbage collector→Take Out Trash
 4. Teacher→Listen and Raise Hand
 5. Coach→Work Hard
 6. Sister→Share Toys
 7. Neighbor→Cut Grass
 8. Friend→Share a Kind Note
 9. New kid at school→Say "Hello!" or Sit with at Lunch
 10. Teammate→Share supplies or equipment
- Explain that you are going to whisper a service project to a child, that you decided as a team, and the child has to act out silent clues.
- Split group into two teams.
 - Teams get points for guessing who that service project goes with.
 - Example: Cutting Grass. Answer would be "Neighbor".
- The team with the most points wins.
- Make sure that each kid gets a turn to act out an activity.

What You Say:

"You all made the most out of what you had to help your team guess your mystery service project! What a great reminder about all the ways we can serve people. You don't have to have a million dollars or all the toys or time in the world to meet people's needs. You can ***[Bottom Line]*** use what you have to serve others. Think about it. What do you have at your house right now that you can serve others with? *(Allow time for responses.)* Those are great ideas! This week, let's serve others with what we have and do some awesome things around us. I can't wait to hear your stories next week!"

3. I Packed My Lunch . . .

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Guide kids to sit in a circle.
- Lead a child to say, “I packed my lunch, and I packed . . .” and then name an item that begins with the letter A.
- The second child says what the first child said and adds an item that begins with the letter B.
- Play continues with each child naming the previous items and then adding their own, following alphabetical order.
- *NOTE: If naming and remembering items in alphabetical order is too challenging for your group, guide kids to simply name items in ABC order (apple, banana, carrots) or name miscellaneous items (apple, sandwich, pretzels, etc.).*
- *HINT: When it’s your turn, encourage fun by adding something crazy to the mix, such as a dinosaur, a flip-flop, or a snowman.*

What You Say:

“Wow! We packed a lot of things in our lunch! **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we heard about a boy who packed only two different things for his lunch. Even if we think we only have a little, Jesus can do A LOT if we are willing to serve others!”

4. Rebus Retell

What You Need: Bible marked at John 6, “Rebus Retell” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Guide kids to gather around you and stand about an arm’s length apart.
- Invite a child to open the Bible where marked.
- Read “Rebus Retell” aloud, guiding kids to crouch low when you say “small” and stand tall when you say “large.”

What You Say:

“Wow! One boy gave Jesus (*hold up five fingers*) five SMALL loaves of bread and (*hold up two fingers*) two SMALL fish. Then Jesus turned it into enough food to feed more than 5,000 people . . . with (*hold up 10 and then 2 fingers*) 12 LARGE baskets of food left over!

“Sometimes you may feel like you can only do small things to help others—you can only give a little bit of food or a little bit of money or a little bit of help. But no matter what you give, God can take the little that you give and use it to help others in a BIG way.

“This week, **[Bottom Line]** use what you have to serve others. Because when you do, God can take what you give and use it to do more than you could ever imagine!”

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Ask kids to think of one thing that takes up a lot of their time that isn't a need in their life but more of a want. It could be something they choose to do or play with, like a toy, video games, TV, etc.

What You Say:

"God, we thank You so much for being our provider. This week, I ask that You help us think of how we can use our time and resources to serve the people around us. Instead of watching TV or playing video games, maybe we can use what we have to serve others. Help us to have a constant desire to help the world around us so that many can hear about You. In Jesus' name, amen."

**BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"
HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH CHILD AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN
WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!