

March Week 3

Garden
Confetti Toss

March 19th

CRAFT

Fish and Loaves

SUPPLIES: “Basket” cardstock page, 5 loaves/2 fish per child, crayons or markers, glue sticks

SET UP: To help the craft go more smoothly, you may want to sort out the 5 loaves and 2 fish into piles to hand directly to the children.

TIP for 2s: If you have a very large class and are short on helping hands, you might consider pre-gluing the loaves and fish to the page before Large Group!

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Pass out Basket page, piles of 5 loaves/2 fish, and crayons or markers.**

- *“Friends – Today in our true Bible story we learned about Jesus feeding 5,000 people with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish! It was a miracle. Only Jesus could do that. Jesus can do anything!”*
- *We are making our own baskets today! Let’s count the food we have. Will you count the bread with me? 1-2-3-4-5! 5 loaves of bread! Now let’s count the fish 1-2. 2 fish! Do you think this is enough to feed our whole class? No? What about 5,000 people? No way!*
- *But Jesus did it! It was a miracle! Jesus can do anything. He loved those people so much that he wanted to show his love by feeding them!*
- *I want to see you color your basket and your bread and fish.*

⇒ **Pass out glue sticks and instruct children to glue their loaves and fish to the basket. (**2-year-old classes – see TIP above.)**

⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *Nice work everybody! Jesus fed 5,000 people with just 5 loaves and 2 fish. Jesus is amazing! He fed every single person and no one went hungry. Jesus showed his love to all of them. And we can show the love of Jesus to others, too!*
- ***Who can love like Jesus?***
- ***I can love like Jesus!***

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March 9th

ACTIVITY #1

Fish Basket Toss

SUPPLIES: Laundry Basket (2 for larger classes), plush fish, floor tape

SET UP: Place the basket on one end of the room. Tape a line off a few feet away from the basket for children to stand behind.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Guide children to stand in a single file line.**

- *“We have a big basket here. Let’s see if we can toss all of the fish in the basket?”*

⇒ **Have the first child toss fish into the basket.**

- *“Great job! This is a lot of fish here! But Jesus only had 2 fish and 5 loaves to begin with – and he still was able to feed 5,000 people. It was a miracle! And why did Jesus do it? Because he wanted to show his love to all of those people by feeding them!”*
- ***Who can love like Jesus?***
- ***I can love like Jesus!***

⇒ **Let each child take a turn and follow each turn answering the bottom-line question.**

- ***Who can love like Jesus?***
- ***I can love like Jesus!***

⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *“Nice work everybody! We sure filled that basket up with a lot of fish! We used toy fish, but Jesus multiplied real fish and bread to feed the people – 5,000 people! Isn’t Jesus the best? He showed his love to everyone that day! We may not be able to do a miracle like Jesus, but we can still show his love to everyone we meet!”*
- ***Who can love like Jesus?***
- ***I can love like Jesus!***

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ACTIVITY #2

Parachute

SUPPLIES: Parachute, squishy bread, plush fish

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Gather children around the parachute.**
 - *“Friends, come over here and form a circle around the parachute with me! Today in our true Bible story we heard about how Jesus fed thousands of people with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish!”*
- ⇒ **Have children pick up a handle of the parachute.**
 - *“Let’s play a parachute game. I am going to toss the bread and fish onto the parachute and we are going to make waves with the parachute. When the pieces pop out we can run and collect them all!”*
- ⇒ **Have children make waves. Have them answer the big question and then pop the food off the parachute.**
 - *“Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus! Let’s shake the parachute!”*
 - *Look all the food is everywhere! Go get it and bring it back to the parachute!”*
- ⇒ **Have children gather the food on the parachute.**
 - *“Jesus shared food with thousands of people! He showed us how to love others!”*
 - *Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!”*
- ⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**
- ⇒ **Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Jesus showed us how to love so we can love like him!”*
 - ***Who can love like Jesus?***
 - ***I can love like Jesus!”***

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READ – ASK – PRACTICE - PRAY

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ

⇒ Read from the Bible.

- *The Beginner's Bible: Jesus Feeds Thousands, p. 357*
 - *This is an amazing true Bible story. In it we see that Jesus was actually on his way to do another miracle when he healed the woman. Jesus is so amazing!*

ASK A QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

Proverbs 17:17

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.