

Jesus Feeds the 5,000

Movie Workshop: Hollywood Studios

Adapted for Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Olympia, WA, in 2001, and updated by Beth Tobin for Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Olympia, WA, in 2013 and in 2017.

Overview:

Students will watch “Jesus Feeds the Multitudes” as they consider how this miracle reveals Jesus as the “Prophet who is to come into the world.” (John 6:14)

Bible Text: John 6:1-14

(Also in Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:31-44, and Luke 9:11-17)

Memory Verse: John 6:14 NIV

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

Leader Preparation:

- Read the scripture for this lesson, both the John and Mark accounts.
- Read and reflect on the background material provided for this lesson.
- Watch the Bible Study Video found at www.gloriadeikids.org
- Watch the videos ahead of time and cue “Jesus Feeds the Multitudes” to begin about up to their starting place.
- Make sure you are familiar with the technology.

Supplies:

- VHS: Jesus A Kingdom without Frontiers, “Jesus Feeds the Multitudes” ISBN 1-56814-316-8
- Popcorn
- Small loaf of bread

Opening:

Welcome students warmly and introduce yourself and other adults. Please make sure that all of the students know each other and allow for introductions when anyone is new. Shepherds will take attendance.

Show students the loaf of bread. Ask: How many sandwiches could you make from this loaf of bread? How many people would five loaves of bread feed?

Ask: How often do you get hungry? (Distribute popcorn/pirate booty.)

Ask: Have you ever been spiritually hungry? What might that look or feel like? (Lost, unsure of something, alone, super sad, something’s missing etc.)

Say: Jesus is the bread of life, that will never run out, and that feeds our souls. (He is our spiritual food.) The more we share the bread of life (Jesus' love) the more we have to give.

Dig In:

Have students find John 6:1-15 in their Bibles. Help to make sure all students are able to find the story. Demonstrate or review how to open the Bible half way and then half way again to quickly find the gospels. Recall with students the four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Explain that the story of "Jesus Feeds the 5,000" is one of only two stories that are found in all four gospels! Any guesses on what the other one is? (The Resurrection) All four gospel writers found the story of Jesus Feeding the 5,000 really important to include. Today we will be watching a movie about this story. It takes place in Israel, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus has been teaching and healing people. When his disciples return from errands, they head out onto the lake for some rest and quiet time.

Let's watch what happens as they continue to cross the lake. Think about why all four gospel writers found this story so important to include.

Watch: Jesus: A Kingdom with Frontiers: "Jesus Feeds the Multitudes." Cue the video to start as Jesus and his disciples are leaving shore in the boat. About 5:28 (See/Follow the Storyboard at the end of this lesson.)

Note: You will need to watch the time to determine how much of the movie you show. Several suggestions are made in the Storyboard.

Questions:

- Jesus and the disciples had gone onto the lake for some rest. What did the crowds do? (They walked around the lake and met them on the other side!)
- Why do you think the crowds followed Jesus? (They needed healing, wanted to hear him speak more, they were curious about Jesus....)
- How does Jesus react? (He has compassion on them. Heals them. Teaches. Feeds them!)
- Jesus uses the gifts given, five small loaves and two fish, and multiplies them! What do you suppose people there were thinking?
- What did Jesus do before he broke the bread? (Giving thanks before we eat is a simple way we can help to remember Jesus and thank God for all of our gifts.)

- What does Jesus mean when he says, “I am the bread that gives life?” - John 6:35 (Jesus is the bread of life, that will never run out, and that feeds our souls. If we believe in Him we will have everlasting life. Jesus wants everyone to know Him and believe in Him and have everlasting life. And have it abundantly! Look at how much was left over!)
- What do you think we are meant to learn from this story?
- Why do you think all four gospel writers found this story so important to include? (Accept answers)

Here's our Memory Verse for this rotation:

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” John 6:14 NIV

Why do you think they would say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.”? Repeat that part with me. (Accept answers.)

Thank students for coming. Encourage them to come next week and bring a friend to share God's love with!

Close with Prayer:

Dear God, You are all powerful! You are the bread of life. Thank you for caring for all people. Help us to believe in You and share your love for others. Amen.

Movie Storyboard: “Jesus Feeds the Multitudes”

- 0:00 Opening Credits
- 3:00 Movie begins: People walking, kids running and playing, hot sun. People take the path along the lake to see Jesus.
- 4:42 Jesus is teaching - Parable of the Sower, from a boat.
- 5:28 Philip and disciples return and give an account of their travels. **Start here.**
- 5:45 Disciples head out into a boat to get some quiet time. People head after them.
- 6:30 Disciples share about their travels and teaching about Jesus and healing in the Name of Jesus.
- 8:00 People are shown to travel around the lake shore, still in the boat Jesus explains the Parable of the Sower to the disciples.
- 9:00 Disciples notice all of the people following and catching up to them. They head to shore. Jesus teaches about the Parable of the Weeds and the Kingdom of Heaven from the boat.
- 10:30 They are back in the boat, away from shore, and Jesus is explaining the Parable of the Weeds to the disciples.
- 11:15 They come to their destination and people are everywhere waiting for them. The disciples are in awe at the size of the crowd. Jesus begins to heal people and teach them and have compassion for them. He teaches about love.
- 12:50 More people arrive. Jesus teaches about charity and heals more people.
- 13:40 It's getting late. People are setting up tents and gathering around fires.

Jesus Feeds the 5,000 Rotation
Movie Workshop Lesson Plan

- 14:14 The disciples approach Jesus about feeding the people and Jesus tells them, the disciples (who are shocked) to feed the people, but they have nothing.
- 14:48 One disciple brings a boy with five loaves and two fish.
- 15:00 Everyone sits in small groups, Jesus gives thanks and blesses the bread and fish and says now go and feed the people. Some disciples are doubtful.
- 15:50 Jesus says, "Go." So they do, and begin feeding the people.
- 16:20 People are fed and baskets stay full. Note - the fish in the film are probably much larger than the actual fish were. The bread looks to be about right.
- 17:15 People are eating their fill and are satisfied.
- 18:00 People start to drift to sleep.
- 18:25 The disciples gather around Jesus - there are 12 baskets left over!
- 18:42 The people start exclaiming and talking about what took place. - He must be the Messiah.
- 19:00 Jesus sends the disciples away to Capernaum in the boats. He will catch up with them later. **You could stop the video here.**
- 19:34 The people have been looking for Jesus.
- 20:00 He realizes they only want food. He says what they need is spiritual food from heaven. And, Jesus is that spiritual food, the Bread of Life. The people are confused by these words mistaking Jesus saying He is earthly bread instead of spiritual bread - everlasting life. They don't understand and many leave.
- 21:53 Jesus is depicted in a stern way here, "No one can come to me unless it is granted by the father." (He realizes they want to make Him be an earthly king, and He knows He has been sent by God to save us.) Only a few followers remain. But word still spreads about all that happened.
- 22:50 Jesus is shown walking back around the lake to meet up at Capernaum with the disciples. (This is not explained, only inferred.) **This would be an okay place to stop the video. If there is time, the next segment is really nice because it shows actual footage of the region.**
- 24:00 Geography of the region.
- 27:00 Why did Jesus do miracles? And explanation of miracles and several examples. **One brief scene of a possessed person is scary looking. Be aware if you show this segment to first or second graders.**
- 30:00 "Jesus is the Star" Song and End Credits - **No need to show this.**