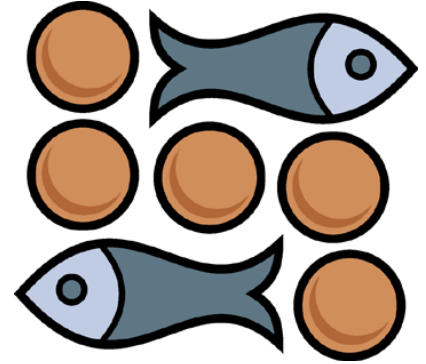


# Jesus Feeds the 5,000: Overview and Objectives



**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.”*

“The miracle of the feeding of the multitude tells one of the great stories of Jesus’ ministry. The power of faith and the active intervention of Christ Jesus cares for the needs of the people who gathered to hear God’s Word. And through his compassionate act, he reveals his true identity as God’s Son, the Messiah. Miraculously, the people are fed and lots of food was left over.”

- Kathy Smit, St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Ingersoll, ON, [www.rotation.org](http://www.rotation.org)

## Goals and Objectives:

At the end of the rotation, students will be able to:

- Name that the story is found in the New Testament in all four Gospels.
- Identify the four Gospels
- Locate the story in the Gospel of John and retell it in his/her own words.
- Second - Fifth Grades: Locate the Concordance and Maps in their Bible and demonstrate how to use them.
- Define a miracle as an amazing event that tells us something about God.
- Discuss the miracles in this story and what they have to teach us:
  - God can take what little we have to offer and turn it into something great! - leftovers! (John 6:8-13)
  - Age is not a limitation to serve God. (John 6:8-9)
  - Jesus wants us to share what we have with others. (John 6:9)
  - Jesus is the Messiah, God’s son, the Prophet who was to come into the world! (John 6:14)
  - Miracles can open the hearts and minds of people to experience and respond to God in the world.
- Say the Memory Verse.

## Overview of workshops in this Rotation:

### Cooking:

Students will make fish shaped pretzels as they uncover the layers of miracles in this story, explore communion, and how each of us has been abundantly blessed.

### **Bible Skills:**

Students will compare this story as it is found in all four Gospels. They will learn about a Concordance and how to use the one found in their Bible along with locating this story on the maps found in their Bible. They will also construct a visual representation of this story and what “5,000” looks like using dot stickers.

### **Movie:**

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)

### **Art:**

Students will explore this story through the use of clay (making fish) and think about what their reaction would have been if they were there at the time. How is Jesus revealed to others today? How do we share His love? How does God multiply our gifts?

### **References:**

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- Pastor Doug Knutson-Keller, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Olympia, WA