

JESUS FED A CROWD



Bible Reference: *Matt. 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6*

Date: 10/4/26

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

1st Service

Memory Verse:

“Shine your light- before others -so they see -your good works- and give glory- to God.”- *Matthew 5:16*

Big Picture Question:

**How can we be saved?
We are only saved by
trusting in Jesus**

Christ Connection

- Jesus fed thousands with just a little food to show He is God's Son. Jesus is the Bread of Life. He gives us everything we need, including forgiveness of sin and life with God forever.

Schedule

- **Welcome/ Intro Activity**.....5 minutes
 - **Kindergarten in Large Group Lesson @ 9:20**.....15-20 minutes
- **Circle Time and Bible Story**.....10 minutes
- **Movement Activity**.....10 minutes
- **Craft**.....5-7 minutes
- **Music**.....5 minutes
- **Friends from Afar**.....5-7 minutes
- **Prayer and Bible Verse**.....10 minutes
- **Snack/ Discussion Time**.....5-7 minutes
- **Group Game**.....10 minutes
- **Additional Activities**.....As Needed

Notes and Reminders

We are inviting you to join us on October 18 from 12:30-2:00 for our Fall Shepherd Lunch and Workshop. We will be discussing ideas from the book 'Lead With Prayer' to grow more in our understanding of the influence prayer has on different roles we hold. Don't worry if you haven't read the book- we will have a guest speaker leading us!



SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

The feeding of the 5,000 is the only public miracle, other than Jesus' resurrection, recorded in all four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We should pause and ask, "Why this one? What about this miracle made it so unforgettable that no Gospel writer could leave it out?"

We can get a clue toward the importance of the miracle through its framing in the book of Luke. The miracle sits between two key questions: "Who is this?" (Luke 9:9), asked by a bewildered and disturbed King Herod, and "Who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20), asked by Jesus of His disciples immediately following the miracle.

Throughout the book of Luke, Jesus declares important truths during meals. From the dinners at Pharisees' houses to the last supper, meals in the book of Luke often carry significant meaning. And this miracle of feeding the 5,000 is no different. It's not just a moment of compassion—it's a moment of revelation and foreshadowing. It's the answer to the questions posed by Herod and Jesus Himself.

It's fitting that Luke ends the section with Peter's declaration: "You are the Christ of God." That's where every true encounter with Jesus should lead. The one who takes, blesses, breaks, and gives is not merely a miracle-worker. He is the *Messiah*—the one who fills us, sustains us, and saves us. And when we recognize Him as such, our only right response is the same as Peter's worship and confession declaring, "You are the Christ."

This week, lead kids to be ready to answer the question, "Who is Jesus," by recognizing Him as *Messiah* and Lord.

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

The feeding of the 5,000 is special – it's the only miracle (besides Jesus rising from the dead) written about in all four Gospels: **Matthew**, **Mark**, **Luke**, and **John**. Why this one? What made it so unforgettable that every writer had to include it?

Luke gives us a clue. This miracle happens between two big questions. King Herod asks, "Who is this?" because he's confused about Jesus (Luke 9:9). Right after the miracle, Jesus asks His own disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9:20).

Throughout Luke, Jesus teaches important truths during meals, like dinners at people's houses, and later, the Last Supper. This miracle is the same way. It's not just Jesus being kind and feeding hungry people, it's Him showing everyone who He really is.

That's why this part of the story ends with Peter saying, "You are the Christ of God." That's the point: anyone who truly meets Jesus should reach the same conclusion. The one who took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it out isn't just someone who does cool miracles. He's the **Messiah**, the one who feeds us, takes care of us, and saves us. Once we realize that, the only response that makes sense is worship, saying what Peter said: "You are the Christ."

This week, let's help kids get ready to answer "Who is Jesus?" by seeing Him as the **Messiah** and **Lord**.

As the kiddos continue to settle in to their new classes, we want to focus on growing the amount of trust we have with them. Each time you prove that you are reliable, you help that child to trust you a little more.

It's kind of like saving money in a piggy bank. If you put a few coins in it each day, its value grows. When something happens that you need a lot of money, you can go to your piggy bank and rely on the stored coins for what you need! When we are trying to prove ourselves trustworthy, we have to do it a little bit at a time. Maybe you show one of the kids that you are always willing to sit next to them during story time, or you show them how to build a taller tower with the blocks. They are learning to trust you. Then maybe they get into an argument with another child in your class. Because they trust you, they might ask you to help them solve the problem!

Everything we do around children helps them to see whether or not they can trust us. What can you do to add more to each child's piggy bank of trust?

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome each child and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Call out a number and a specific type of body movement. Lead kids to hop five times, clap 12 times, spin two times, or stand on one foot for five seconds. Continue calling out numbers and various movements. Emphasize the numbers 2, 5, and 12 as kids play.
- **SAY** Did you get dizzy when you spun around two times? Was it hard to balance on one foot for five seconds? [Allow responses.] The numbers two and five remind me of today's Bible story. Jesus fed a huge crowd of people with only two fish and five loaves of bread. The people ate until their bellies were full. There were even 12 baskets of leftovers!

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Welcome kids to church and thank them for coming. Show several cookbooks. Open the pages and show pictures of dishes featuring baked goods and fish. Invite kids to raise their hands if the pictured dish is something they might enjoy eating.
- **SAY** There are many ways to make bread. A recipe can help someone bake all kinds of bread. There's bread made from all kinds of grains like wheat bread, rye bread, pumpernickel bread. There's also sourdough bread, biscuits, and flatbread. Which kinds of bread do you enjoy? [Allow responses.] Let's look at some fish recipes. Which ones look yummy to you? [Allow responses.] In today's Bible story, Jesus miraculously fed a group of 5,000 men, plus women and children, a meal of bread and fish.

Bible Story

- Jesus and His friends had been teaching many people all day, and they were tired. Jesus wanted to go to a quiet place to rest. So, Jesus and His friends got into a boat. But lots of people saw them leaving. The people ran ahead to where Jesus was going. When Jesus got there and saw the crowd, He cared about them and began to teach and heal them. As the day went on, the disciples said, "It's late. Send the people away so they can get food." Jesus said, "You give them something to eat." The disciples were surprised. "We don't have enough food for so many people!" A boy in the crowd had five small loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, thanked God for the food, and gave it to the disciples to share with the crowd. Everyone ate, and there was more than enough! About 5,000 men, plus women and children, ate until they were full. Afterward, the disciples picked up 12 baskets of leftover food. Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life. If you come to Me, you will never be hungry."





Christ Connection

- Jesus fed thousands with just a little food to show He is God's Son. Jesus is the Bread of Life. He gives us everything we need, including forgiveness of sin and life with God forever.

Review Activity

- Before the session, write review questions on paper strips and place them in a basket. Invite a child to choose a question. Read the question aloud and allow time for children to answer. Include the following questions or make up some of your own:
 - At the start of the story, why was Jesus tired? (He had been teaching all day.)
 - What did the disciples say when Jesus told them to give the people something to eat? (There is not enough food to feed everyone.)
 - Who brought five small loaves of bread and two fish? (A boy in the crowd.)
 - What did Jesus do when the disciples gave Him the food? (He thanked God for it.)
 - What happened to the food as it was passed through the crowd? (Everyone ate until they were full.)
 - How many people ate that day? (5,000 men plus women and children)
 - How many baskets of food were left over? (12 baskets)
- SAY Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people with five loaves and two fish Jesus showed the people that He is God's Son by performing this miracle. Jesus told the people that He is the Bread of Life. He gives people everything they need, including forgiveness of sin and life with God forever.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Tear different-colored paper into several pieces. Scatter the paper scraps all over the floor. Say a color. Instruct kids to gather all the paper scraps that are the named color and bring them to you. Call out another color. Lead boys and girls to continue picking up paper scraps as you call out different colors.

SAY Thank you for gathering all the blue paper. What color shall we pick up next? [Allow responses.] In today's Bible story, after Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people with five loaves and two fish, everyone's bellies were full, and there were 12 baskets of leftovers! Jesus calls Himself the Bread of Life. In our story, Jesus gave food to the people, but He also provides forgiveness of sin. When people trust in Jesus, they have life with God forever after they die on earth.





Craft

5-7 minutes

Find the food-themed stickers and the “Food Pictures” and give them to each child. Each paper lunch bag will have a sticker with the memory verse on it. Give each child a prepared paper bag along with markers and glue sticks. Show kids how to rub glue onto the bag and attach a food picture. Fold the bottom of the bag down to make it easier for kids to decorate the back.

SAY Great job decorating your bags, everyone! We don’t know if the boy in today’s Bible story brought his lunch in a bag or a basket, but you might choose to use your bag to carry food later this week. After Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people with five loaves and two fish, He called Himself the Bread of Life. Jesus gives life forever with God and forgiveness of sin when we trust in Him. That’s what our key passage is about. Even after a person’s body dies, if they have trusted in Jesus, they will live with Him forever.



Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today’s activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month’s Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.





Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You for Jesus. Jesus took the punishment for sin so we can be forgiven. I pray that each child will begin to understand how much You love them and they will one day trust in Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.

Bible Verse

- Find the fish and loaves cutouts with the words of the Bible memory verse written on them. Encourage the children to help you organize the pictures so that the verse is in the correct order. Say the verse together several times.

Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

- What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
- What were some things in the Bible story that surprised you? (Answers will vary.)
- What did Jesus use to feed the large crowd of people? (five small loaves of bread and two fish)
- How many baskets of food were leftover after everyone ate? (12)
- What does it mean that Jesus is the "Bread of Life?" (He gives us everything we need; He forgives people's sins and gives life with God forever for those who trust in Him.)
- How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.

SAY After teaching many people, Jesus and His friends were very tired and needed to rest. They got on a boat to get away from the people, but when they got to the other side, a big crowd of people were waiting! Jesus loved the people and helped them by teaching and healing them. When the people got hungry, Jesus miraculously fed a crowd with five loaves and two fish.





Group Game

10 minutes

- Lay out the different colored sets of fish and loaves at one end of the room. Divide children into even teams of no more than 7. Have the teams line up at one end of the room. At 'start' have the children collect their fish and loaves by running one at a time and picking up 1 item to bring back to their team. If there are less than 7 children on a team, some children may run more than once. The winner is the team who collects all 5 of their loaves and both of their fish first
- SAY After all of the people had been fed, Jesus sent the disciples to collect the leftover food. They came back with twelve full baskets! Jesus miraculously fed a crowd with five loaves and two fish, and still had food leftover!

Additional Activities

As Needed

Draw Many People

- Give each child a sheet of light-colored construction paper. Provide washable markers for the kids to share. Guide each child to draw a lot of faces on their paper. As the activity time ends, lay the papers beside each other to make a large crowd of faces. Tape the kids' papers together to place on the wall.
- SAY: "We worked together to draw a lot of people! Jesus miraculously fed a crowd with five loaves and two fish. There were 5,000 men in the crowd, plus a lot of women and kids. The people were surprised that Jesus fed many people with little food. Jesus is God's Son. He gives us life forever. Look at the big crowd of people that you worked together to draw! The people learned that Jesus can do miracles because He is God's Son."

One Wand, Many Bubbles

- Show the kids a bottle of bubbles. Pull out the bubble wand and comment that it is just one wand with some bubble solution on it. Ask the kids if they think the bubble wand will blow one bubble or many bubbles. Blow on the bubble wand, making sure many bubbles come off the bubble wand.
- SAY What happened after I blew on the bubble wand? [Allow responses.] So many bubbles came from the one little bubble wand! In today's Bible story, we will learn how Jesus took the food that one little boy brought and fed many people. Listen to learn about the time Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people with five loaves and two fish.



Why were Jesus and His friends tired?
(They had been teaching many people all day.)



What did Jesus and His friends do to try to go to a quiet place??
(They got in a boat and crossed the lake.)



What did the people do when they saw Jesus getting in a boat?
(They ran ahead to where Jesus was going.)



What did Jesus' friends say when they saw the people were hungry?
(They wanted Jesus to send the people away to get food.)



Where did Jesus' friends find food?
(A boy had some food with him.)



What kind of food did the boy have?
(Five loaves and two fish)



What did Jesus do with the boy's food?
(He thanked God for the food and gave it to His friends to pass out to the crowd.)



After Jesus multiplied the food, did the people have enough?
(Yes. Everyone ate, and there was plenty of food.)



Who did Jesus say He is?
(He said He is the Bread of Life.)

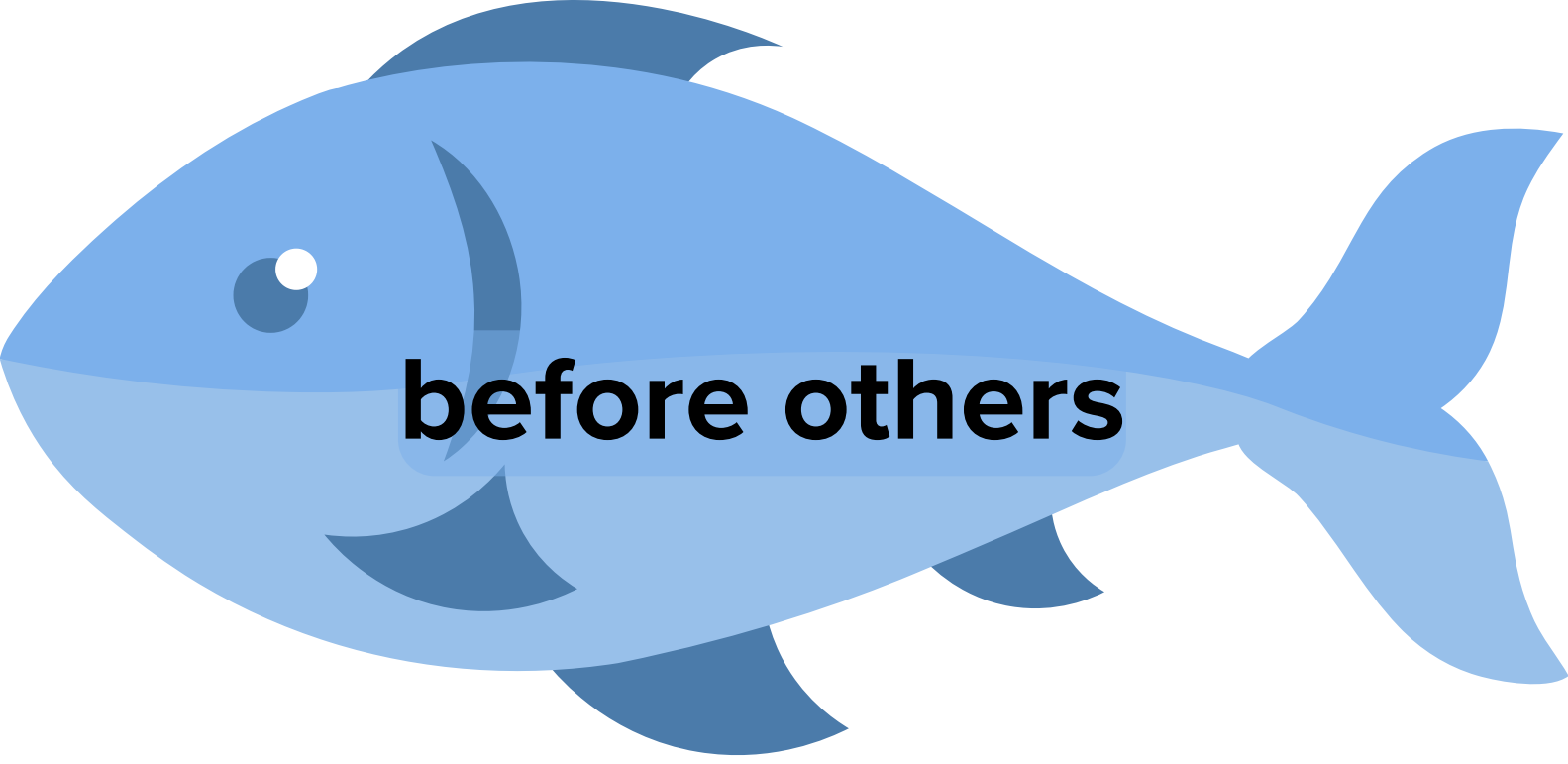


Why could Jesus feed so many people with a small amount of food?
(He is God's Son.)

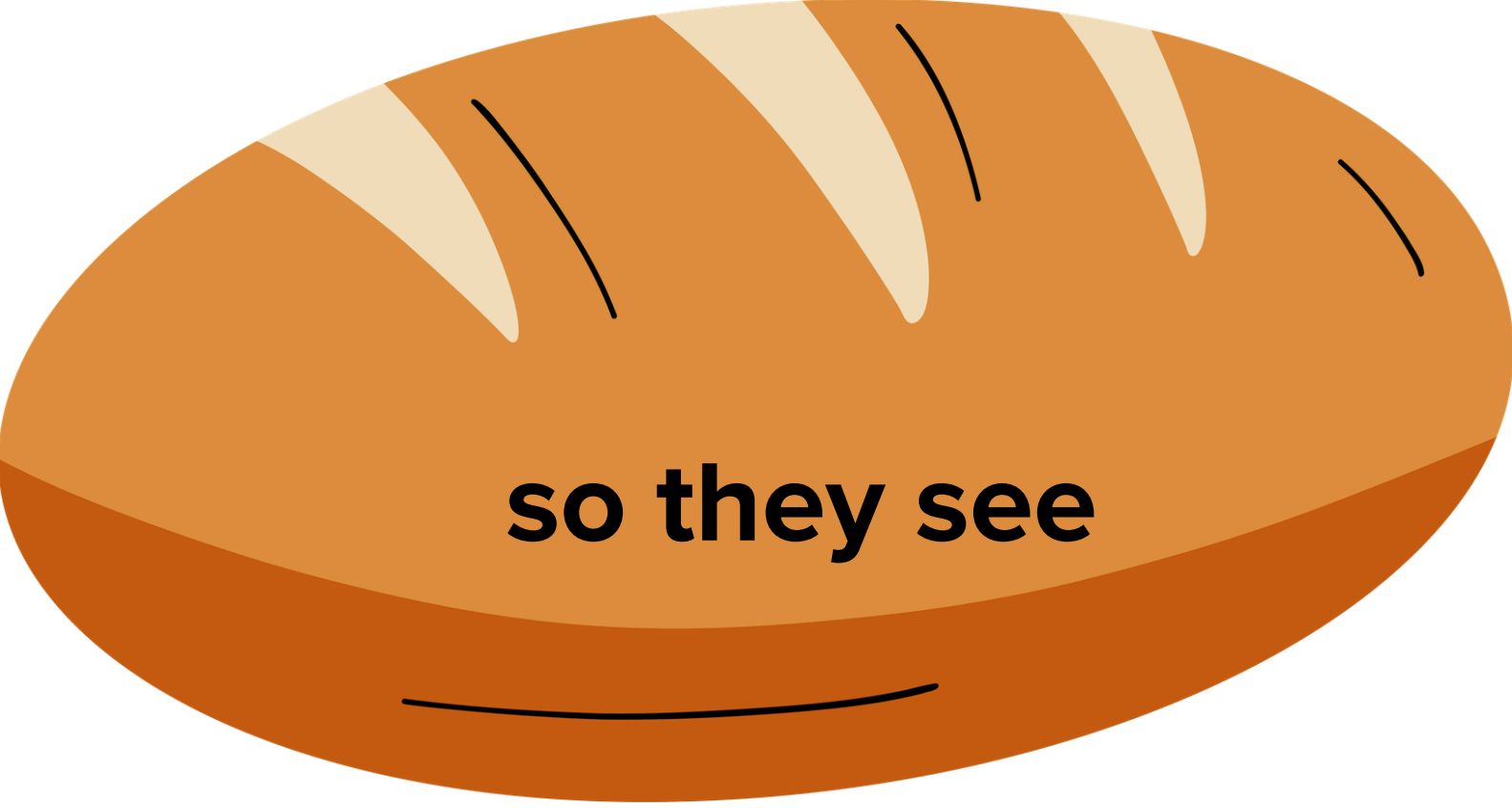




Shine your light



before others

A 3D illustration of a golden-brown loaf of bread, viewed from a slightly elevated side angle. The top of the loaf features several diagonal slashes, revealing a lighter-colored interior. The text "so they see" is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the middle of the loaf's top surface.

so they see

A 3D illustration of a golden-brown loaf of bread, identical in style to the one above, viewed from a slightly elevated side angle. The top of the loaf features several diagonal slashes, revealing a lighter-colored interior. The text "your good works" is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the middle of the loaf's top surface.

your good works



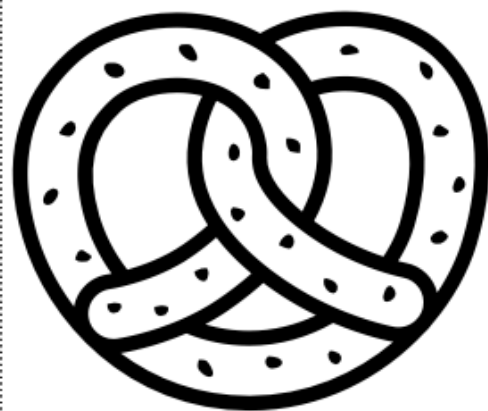
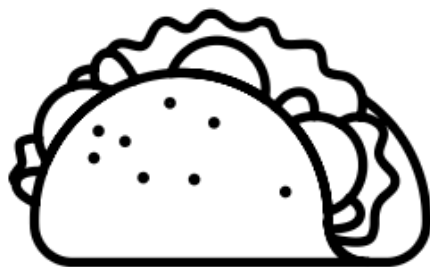
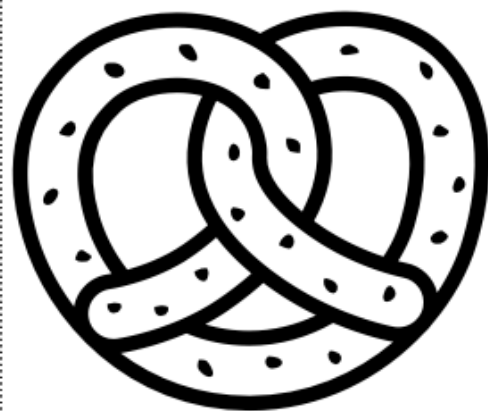
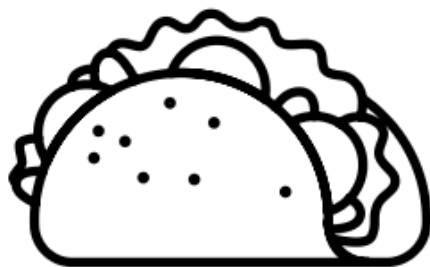
and give glory



to God

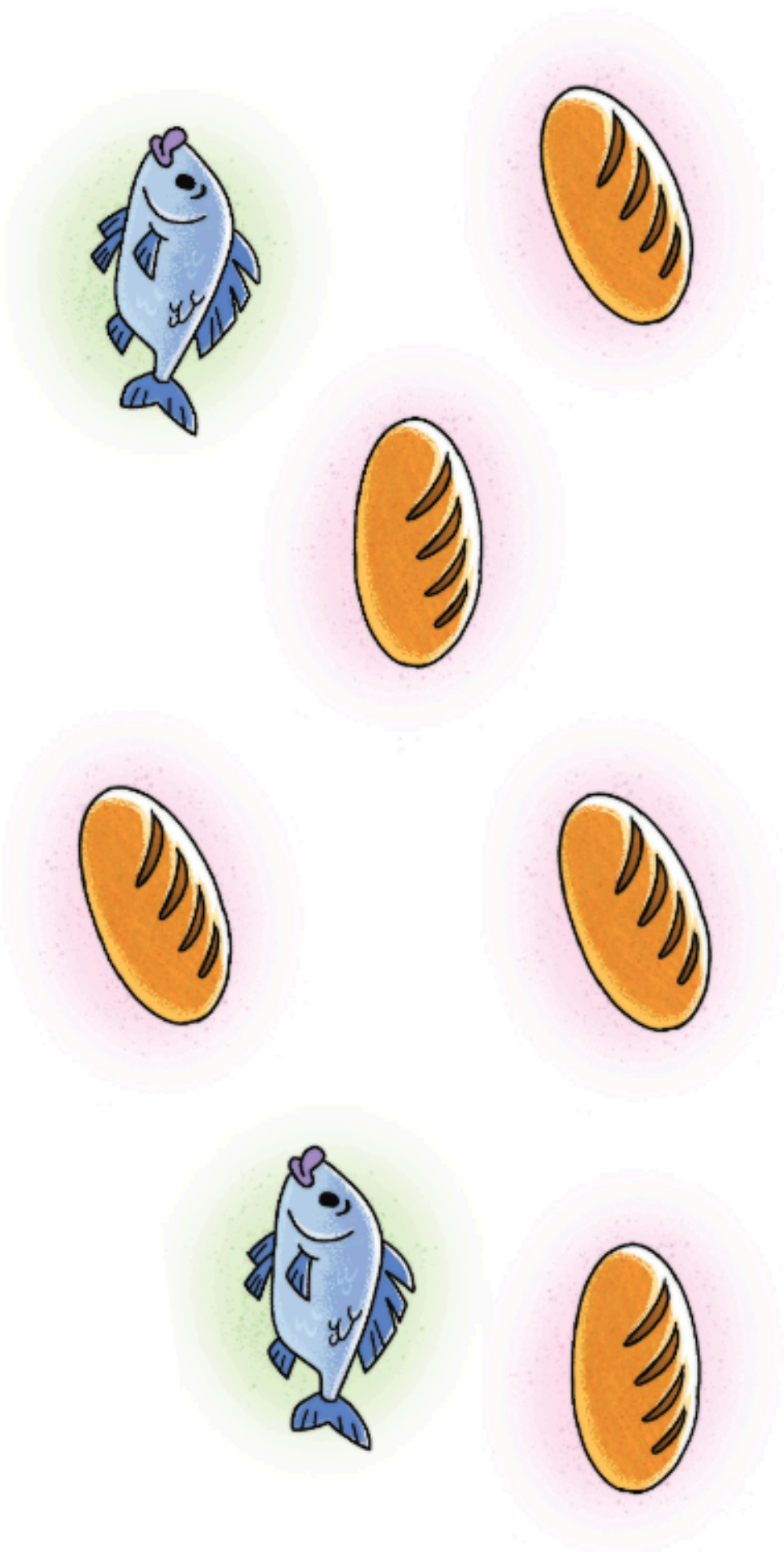
A stylized illustration of a loaf of bread, colored in shades of orange and brown. The bread has several diagonal slashes on its top surface, some of which are filled with a lighter, cream-colored color. The text "Matthew 5:16" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the middle of the loaf.

Matthew 5:16



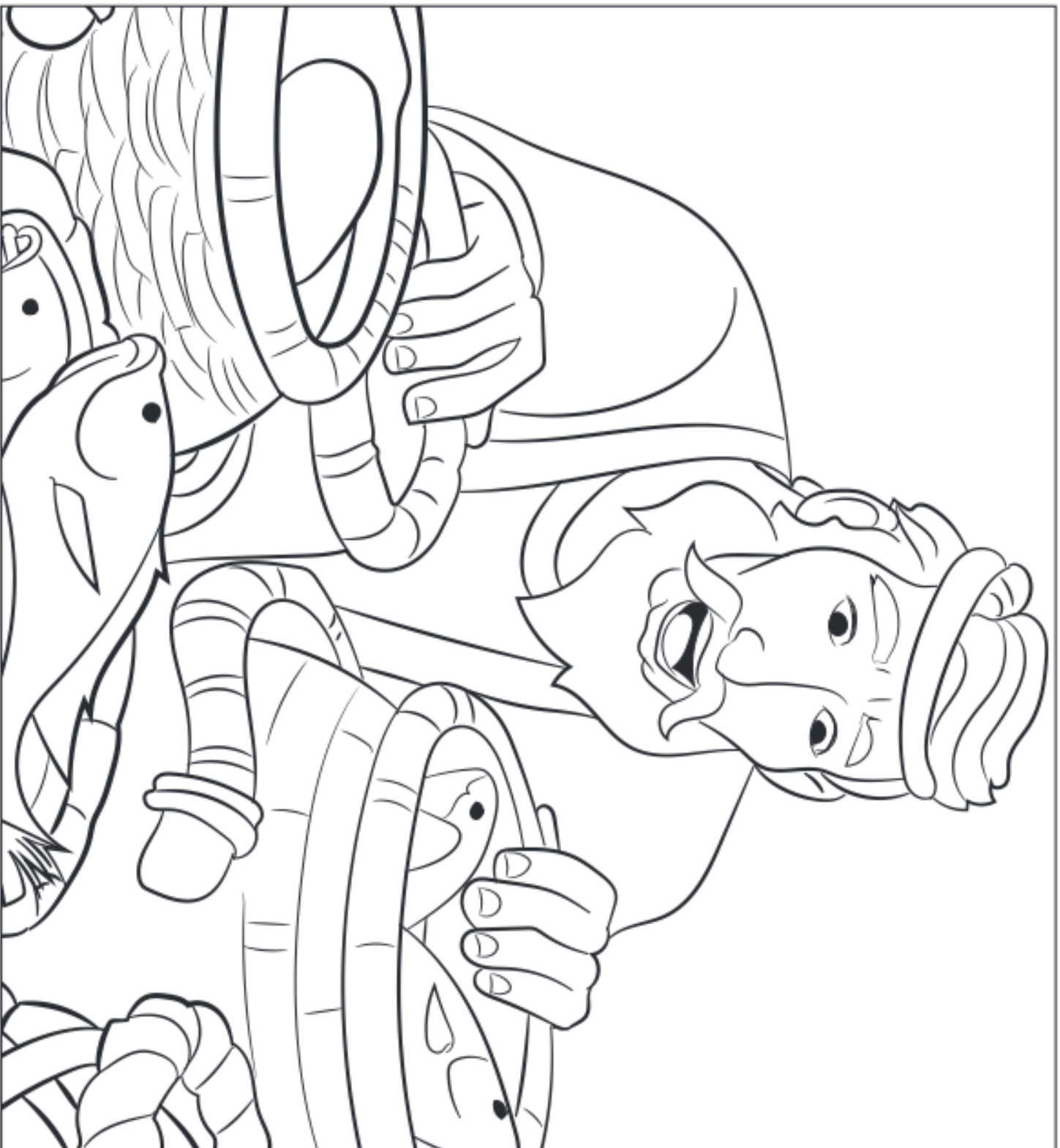
Count the Food

INSTRUCTIONS: Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people. Count the fish and loaves of bread below. Circle the number you counted for each item.



	3	5	4
	2	1	3

NAME: _____



Jesus Fed a Crowd

Matthew 14; Mark 6;

Luke 9; John 6

STORY POINT:

Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of people with five loaves and two fish.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus fed thousands with just a little food to show He is God's Son. Jesus is the Bread of Life. He gives us everything we need, including forgiveness of sin and life with God forever.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 11:25

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.

Scan the QR code
for resources to
use at home!



