

Hearing God's Word:



Today in church we will be exploring the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people in John 6:1-21. Other scriptures we will be thinking about at church this week include 2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14, and Ephesians 3:14-21.

Worship @ 10 am Sunday Mornings in-person at



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
201 N Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
www.ZionReformed.church

or virtually at <https://zionreformed.church/sermons>



Children's Church @ 10:15am Sunday Mornings

(In-person and Virtual Options Available)

To participate virtually, join us at <https://zoom.us/join> or by calling 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: **865 7471 1577** and Passcode: **YouthSS**. For more information: Contact Kim Ridenour at miskim@myactv.net or the Church Office at 301.739.7244, or visit <https://zionreformed.church/children>.

Jesus Feeds 5,000 People

(Mark 6:1-15, *International Children's Bible*®, ©2015 by Tommy Nelson Inc)



After this, Jesus went across Lake Galilee (or, Lake Tiberias). Many people followed him because they saw the miracles he did to heal the sick. Jesus went up on a hill and there sat down with his followers. It was almost the time for the Jewish Passover Feast. Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him. He said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread for all these people to eat?" (Jesus asked Philip this question to test him. Jesus already knew what he planned to do.) Philip answered, "Someone would have to work almost a year to buy enough bread for each person here to have only a little piece." Another follower there was Andrew. He was Simon Peter's brother. Andrew said, "Here is a boy with five loaves of barley bread and two little fish. But that is not enough for so many people." Jesus said, "Tell the people to sit down." This was a very grassy place. There were about 5,000 men who sat down there. Then Jesus took the loaves of bread. He thanked God for the bread and gave it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish. He gave them as much as they wanted. They all had enough to eat. When they had finished, Jesus said to his followers, "Gather the pieces of fish and bread that were not eaten. Don't waste anything." So they gathered up the pieces that were left. They filled 12 large baskets with the pieces that were left of the five barley loaves. The people saw this miracle that Jesus did. They said, "He must truly be the Prophet who is coming into the world." Jesus knew that the people planned to come and take him by force and make him their king. So he left and went into the hills alone.

Family Discussion:

A Question for Adults to ask Children:

How many people were fed in the story?

Who provided the food?

Even though we call this the story of 'feeding the 5000' we don't actually know how many people were fed. The Bible tells us that the total number counted did not include the women and children! The bread and fish that were shared between the many people came from a boy who was there. The little boy gave the food that he had to Jesus and then a miracle happened – the food was shared and shared till everybody had as much as they wanted AND there was still some left over!

A Question for Children to ask Adults:

What do we have as a family that we can share with others?



The little boy in the story brought what he had and gave it to Jesus to use – we all have things that God can use and multiply to bless others. This could be physical things like food, clothes or resources, it could be talents or skills that are in us which we can share with others, or it could be spiritual gifts that can be used to bless those around us.

A Prayer to Say Together:

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of the feeding of the 5000 and the little boy who shared what he had with those around him. Help us to recognize all the things you have given us and to be willing to share them with those around us. We pray for all those in the world who are struggling and do not have enough to eat. We pray as well for all those working at food banks and community fridges to help. Amen.



Answer Key:

Jesus Feeds 5,000 People

A crowd of 5,000 people gathered around Jesus and His disciples. Philip said that 8 months' wages couldn't buy enough for 1 bite each!

Use the code to fill in the blanks.

A=6 B=1 C=3 D=4 E=5 F=7 G=8 H=9 I=10 J=11 K=12 L=13 M=14 N=15 O=16 P=17 Q=18 R=19 S=20 T=21 U=22 V=23 W=24 X=25 Y=26 Z=27

ANDREW SAID
"HERE IS A BOY
WITH FIVE
SMALL BARLEY
LOAVES AND
TWO SMALL
FISH. BUT HOW
FAR WILL THEY
GO AMONG
SO MANY?"

Jesus told the disciples to have all the people sit down on the grass. Then what did He do?

Add and subtract letters to find out.
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

J E S U S T O O K
H+2 G-2 X-5 P+5 N+5 Y-5 M+2 Q-2 M-2

T H E L O A V E S
R+2 M-5 C+2 G+5 J+5 F-5 X-2 Q-2 X-5

G A V E T H A N K S
B+5 C-2 X-2 G-2 Y-5 J-2 F-5 S-5 I+2 N+5

A N D P A S S E D
C-2 I+5 B+2 U-5 F-5 O+2 U-2 G-2 F-2

T H E M A M O N G
O+5 F+2 J-5 K+2 C-2 R-5 J+5 L+2 L-5

T H E P E O P L E
R+2 F+2 J-5 K+5 C+2 T-5 N+2 N-2 G-2

H E D I D T H E
D+4 C+2 I-5 D+5 B+2 Y-5 L-4 Q-2

S A M E W I T H
X-5 F-5 H+5 J-5 V+1 G+2 O+5 C+5

T H E F I S H
V-2 M-5 C+2 A+5 N-5 N+5 C+5

What happened next?
Fill the pieces in the puzzle.

Some water until
full. The disciples
gathered twelve of them
of bread
of left over food!

Jesus went to be alone for a while. Read what happened next.

The disciples got in a boat and set off for Capernaum. It was windy and the water was rough. They rowed about 3 miles. Suddenly, they saw someone walking on the water toward them!

To find what happened next:
1.) Cross out every other letter beginning with the second one.
2.) Then, cross out every remaining letter that appears 6 or more times.
3.) Write the remaining letters in order on the lines below.

J X W X E X S X W X
U X S X W X S X A X
I X W X D X I X T X
I X S X I X W X D X
O X N X W X O X T X
W X B X E X A X X X
F X R X A X I X D X

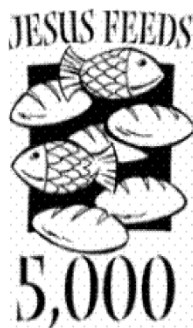
J E S U S S A I D
"I T I S I; D O N O T
B E A F R A I D"

Jesus Feeds 5,000!

Dinner on the Grounds

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." John 6:12 (NIV)

Based on John 6:1-15 (NIV)



M U I X D S J F I Q K Y U G O
 S L Q W K X F B A S K E T W K
 W M O N S E N O U G H D J S V
 N R A U T H O U S A N D I I P
 C H S L T G Y R U L U K I E Z
 T E B W L C M P I B Y F E N P
 J T W E L V E F L T J N I G N
 E A T X A L D S N T H V S A F
 Z S F P C W O E Q I Q E F T Z
 I T T I V P L A K V C B B H F
 X G J E L P E T V E R A O E I
 W F R T C L U O I E G R Y R V
 K S I E J S E P P W S L K K E
 K K B S A W X D O L W E U I Y
 U U D J H T K U Y Z E Y W W Q

TWELVE	FIVE	FISH	BARLEY	THANKS
FILLED	LOAVES	ENOUGH	JESUS	GREAT
BOY	CROWD	PEOPLE	EAT	BASKET
PLENTY	GATHER	SMALL	THOUSAND	PIECES

Family Activities:

Here are some activities you can do together as a family and discussion ideas to explore God's Word together.

Family Activity 1:

You will need: Paper, Pens, and Craft materials



What is it that makes your family unique and special? What are the gifts and talents that God has given you to share with others? Why not design a family crest together? You could include things that you like to do as a family together or divide it into sections that reflect each member of your family and the things that make them unique.

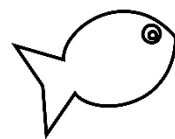
Family Activity 2:

How amazing that God can meet with us wherever we are and whatever we are doing. Why not plan a family picnic to have together – either in a local park or in your own garden?



Think about what it must have been like for all those who were present when Jesus performed his miracle. As you set up think about what the people in the story felt like when they were sat down in groups on the ground? What were they expecting to happen? As you share the food together, think about what it would have been like to see the tiny amount of food spread further and further. Imagine how the little boy felt watching his picnic lunch grow and grow! As you tidy up after your picnic think about what the disciples would have felt like as they collected up the spare food at the end of the story.

Family Activity 3:



Draw or trace a fish outline on a piece of paper, then glue some yarn around the edge of the fish and some sequins on the fish as decoration. Write today's Bible verse on the fish. Hang by a ribbon or add a magnet to attach fish to the refrigerator.

Verse of the Day



God's love for us is big enough that even when we mess up and make mistakes, God wants to forgive us and share God's love with us, just like he did for David in the OT story and with the crowd of people in the Gospel story. This verse reminds us not only that God loves us but that God wants us to love and share with others.

And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love--how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is. (Ephesians 3:18)

Active Sharing

Why not take some time this week to actively share and use what you have to bless others. Here are some ideas of areas where you could take time to share.

Physical Things

- Pick up some extra food in your weekly shop to donate to the food bank.
- Sort out some clothes you have outgrown or no longer wear and donate them to another family.
- Pass on a book you have enjoyed reading to somebody else.

Skills & Talents

- Bakers/Chefs – cook some delicious food to share with somebody in your community.
- Artists/Creatives – draw or create an encouraging piece of art, poetry or song to bless somebody.

Spiritual Gifts

- Spend some time praying for another family in the church.
- Share an encouraging Bible verse with a friend.

Jesus told the disciples to have all the people sit down on the grass. Then what did He do?

Add and subtract letters to find out.
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



H+2 G-2 X-5 P+5 N+5 Y-5 M+2 Q-2 M-2

R+2 M-5 C+2 G+5 J+5 F-5 X-2 C+2 X-5

B+5 C-2 X-2 G-2 Y-5 J-2 F-5 S-5 I+2 N+5

C-2 I+5 B+2 U-5 F-5 Q+2 U-2 G-2 F-2

O+5 F+2 J-5 K+2 C-2 R-5 J+5 L+2 L-5

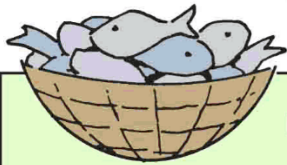
R+2 F+2 J-5 K+5 C+2 T-5 N+2 N-2 G-2

D+4 C+2 I-5 D+5 B+2 Y-5 L-4 G-2

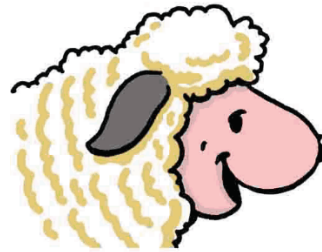
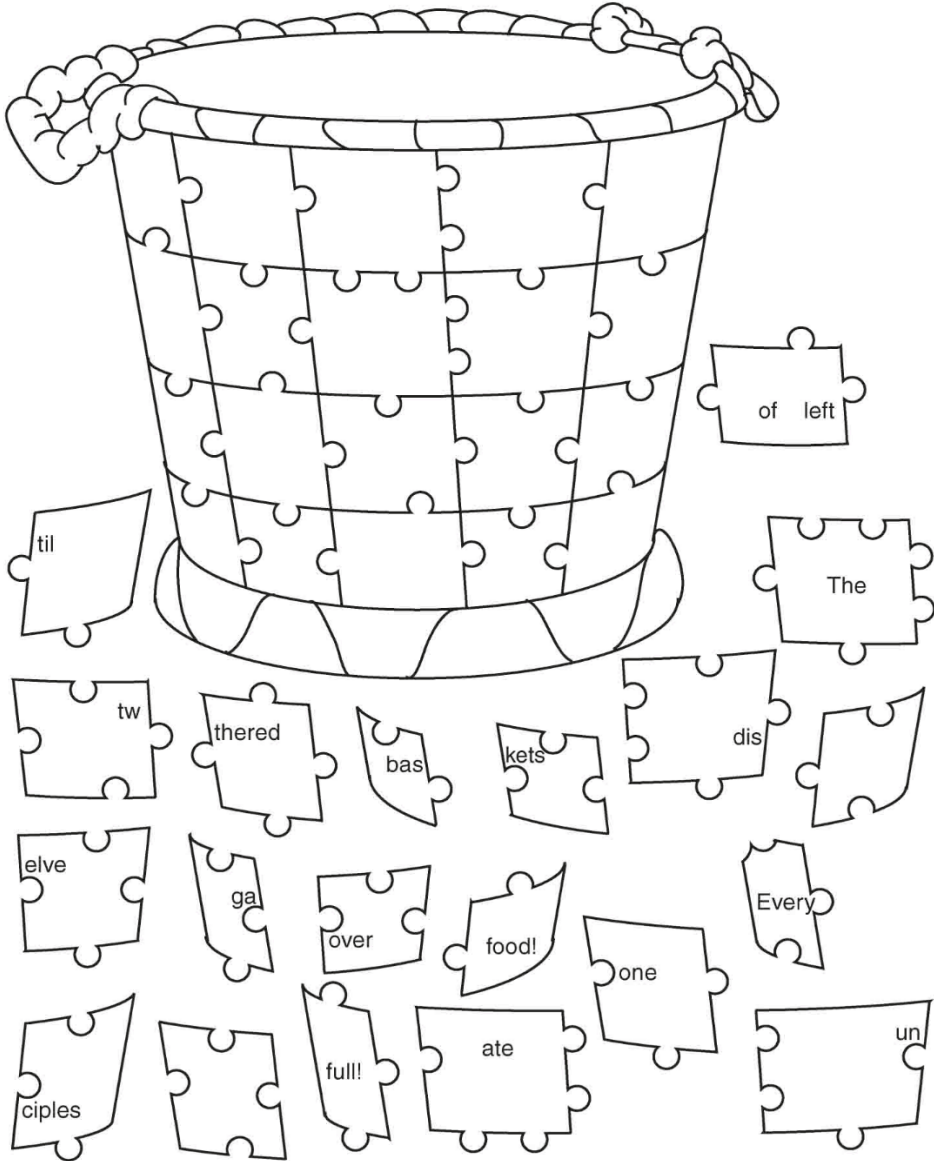
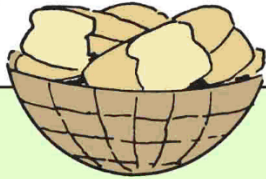
X-5 F-5 H+5 J-5 V+1 G+2 O+5 C+5

V-2 M-5 C+2 A+5 N-5 N+5 C+5

What happened next?



Fit the pieces in the puzzle.



Jesus went to be alone for a while.
Read what happened next.

The disciples got in a boat and set off for Capernaum. It was windy and the water was rough. They rowed about 3 miles. Suddenly, they saw someone walking on the water toward them!

To find what happened next

- 1.) Cross out every other letter beginning with the second one.
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- 3.) Write the remaining letters in order on the lines below.

J	C	W	H	E	K	S	L	W	M
U	P	S	C	W	L	S	M	A	K
I	Q	W	G	D	M	I	P	T	C
I	Z	S	K	I	O	W	Q	D	G
O	W	N	L	W	Q	O	W	T	H
W	G	B	M	E	W	A	Z	W	G
F	C	R	P	A	Z	I	Y	D	C



_____ ,
 “ _____ ; _____
 _____ !”