

“FED BY FAITH”
The Feeding of the Multitude
Based on Mark 6: 30-44

Bible.bytes Workshop

Preparation:

1. Review the “Fed by Faith” theme page.
2. Read and reflect on the story from Mark 6: 30 – 44. Imagine yourself in a large crowd at a concert, parade, political rally, or a church conference. You find yourself caught up in the moment. Your attention is completely directed toward the theme speaker, the group performing on stage, the event itself. The day has gone longer than you had ever expected. You are getting hungry....Then someone says, “Sit down here in this group. We’re going to feed everyone.” How do you feel? What are your worries? What questions would you ask? How would you feel when the food begins to be shared?
3. Review the “Key Concepts”. Consider Jesus as a compassionate, problem-solving leader who works wonders and miracles.
4. Review the lesson plan in detail. Consider ways to adapt the workshop depending on the age group of the participants.
5. Review software in advance to assist children in working on the computer (Life of Christ and The Children’s Play and Learn Bible are recommended).

Materials:

Software: Life of Christ and Children’s Play & Learn Bible cds are required.
For Life of Christ, it is recommended that you turn the speakers off/down on 2 machines to avoid the stories being told seconds faster or slower than the others.

Greeting

1. Welcome the “explorers” to bible.bytes. Introduce yourself and have the children introduce themselves to ensure that new children are able to get to know others.
2. Pray together, sing and discuss Hymn 779.
Dear Lord, thank you for food for people everywhere. Thank you for spiritual food we find in the Bible, in prayer, in worship, in Faith Quest, and in your people. Amen.

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

*What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

*Oh what peace we often forfeit,
Oh what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.*

3. Encourage each class member to share the keyboard and mouse with fellow “explorers” at their computer station. With growing class sizes, this is very important.
4. Tell the children that you will be learning about an amazing story that shows us the power of Jesus’ ministry on earth. Ask them if they have ever heard of the word ‘miracle’. Do they know what it means. Tell them that today we will be learning about a miracle that Jesus performed for thousands of people.

Good News:

1. Read the “Fed by Faith” scripture lesson from Mark 6: 30-44. (You may like to ask some of the older children to take turns reading the verses. They often enjoy this.
2. Ask the children how it must have felt for those who realized just what happened that day. Ask them to imagine being a child in the crowd. How would you feel about Jesus, and all he had done that day.
3. Explain to the children that many of the stories of Jesus are told in the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, in four different ways. These books are the way each of the authors interpreted and remembered the stories of Jesus. Today, our scripture lesson is the version of the story written by Mark. John also told this story from a little different perspective.
4. Tell the children that they will now hear the story again, but presented in a little different way through a computer program. These programs are from John’s gospel, and he remembers that the food actually belonged to a child.

For older children (ages 9/10 and up) use **Life of Christ CD**

1. Insert CD and select New Exploration. The explorer types his/her name to start exploration.
2. Click on ‘Question Mark’ on the top left corner to show exploration opportunities.
3. Click on “Lesson Indexes”
4. Click on Section Title – “Ministry with His Disciples”
5. Select Title #19 “One Boy’s Lunch Feeds 5,000”
6. The story will be told. (This is actually John 6: 1 – 14)
7. The author asks at the end, “What do you think that you could offer to Jesus?” Discuss this with the children. (If they need some help getting started, suggest discipleship, care for others as he cared for us).
8. Have the explorers take the quiz at the end of the lesson.
9. Another area of exploration can be in “Reference Library” – “Bible Words” book. Ask the explorers to look up the word ‘miracle’ ...an event that can’t be explained by natural or human effort, only by God’s power. With the older students, discuss what this means to them. This story offers a mystery of faith, that if we believe, we truly know that there is nothing that God can’t do for us.
10. In place of item #8 above, the 9 and 10 year olds could also play the “Bible Concentration” which is on the desktop display on each computer. Have them try to solve the riddle under the matching game.

For children ages 7 & 8/9 use the **Play and Learn Children’s Bible CD)**

1. Insert CD and click on “Play and Learn” icon on desktop display.
2. “Chariot Media” dialogue box will come up, and click “Run”
3. Select “Bible Stories” and then “Jesus is our Friend”.
4. Then select the “Lunch for 5,000” story.
5. The story will be told. After each frame the student must click on the forward arrow to advance the story. (Recommendation – when asked if you would like the computer to read the story say “No” on 2 computers. This allows for only one voice to tell the story vs. 3 not quite all in synch)
6. There are various questions during the story that you may wish to discuss as you go along.
7. When the story is complete, click on the return arrow.
8. Ask the children, if they can imagine feeding 5,000 people. Share your thoughts on how “awesome”

this story truly is. Tell them that today we often use the word “awesome” for something we think is pretty neat, but it really means something truly amazing. Again and again, Jesus demonstrates how awesome his power in our lives truly is.

9. If you have time, the children may then enjoy going into “The Games Room”

10. There are various games, puzzles, etc. in this section.

11. Have the children take turns and make sure they share the mouse.

12. They may also enjoy some of the other games if time permits.

13. The 7 & 8 year olds enjoy “Bible Concentration”. The 6 year olds enjoy “Where’s Noah”. Both these are on the Main Desktop display, and are fun. The children know where they are. The 4 and 5 year olds will need assistance in maneuvering around the keyboard.

Blessing:

1. As you prepare to leave, pray.

2. Have the explorers go out with the faith that there is nothing that God can’t do, and He truly is an awesome God.

This lesson set was posted by Kathy Smith, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Ingersoll, Ontario