

MARCH 29, 2020
JESUS FED A CROWD

GAME TIME

HOT LOAF

Gather your family in a circle. Provide one family member with a beanbag, paper wad, or small ball. Tell them to imagine it is a hot loaf of bread fresh from an oven. Play music or sing a song. While the music plays, pass the "loaf" around the circle. At random intervals, stop the music. The person holding the "loaf" must say how much bread she could eat and then sit out the rest of the round. Play as long as you'd like!

SAY: *One loaf of bread might be enough for all of us to eat, but do you think five loaves would be enough for more than 5,000 people? No way! Today we will learn about a time Jesus used five loaves to miraculously feed thousands and thousands of people.*

BIBLE STORY

Have the children snack on goldfish or bread while reading this story anytime during the day!

Jesus' disciples had been healing people and teaching them. They were working so hard, they did not even have time to eat! So Jesus said, "Let's go to a quiet place and rest." Jesus and the disciples got into a boat to cross the sea, but people ran along the shore and followed them. A crowd of people was waiting when Jesus and His friends got to the other side of the sea. Jesus saw the crowd, and He cared about the people. They needed someone to help them and show them how to live. So Jesus taught the people about God and His kingdom, and He healed people who were sick.

Now it was getting late, and Jesus' disciples came to Him and said, "Tell the people to go get something to eat." But Jesus said, "You give them something to eat." The disciples were confused. "We can't feed this many people!" they said. "It would cost a lot of money to buy enough bread for them to eat." "How many loaves of bread do you have?" Jesus asked. One of Jesus' friends said, "A boy here has five loaves of bread and two fish, but that is not enough." Jesus told the disciples to tell everyone to sit down.

So all the people sat down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves of bread and two fish. He looked up to heaven, and then He blessed the bread. Then Jesus broke the bread and fish into pieces and gave it to His disciples. They gave the food to the people, and everyone ate until full. Then Jesus told the disciples to collect any leftover food. They collected 12 baskets full of bread and fish! Jesus fed about five thousand men that day, plus women and children.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus gave the people food so they would not be hungry. The next day, Jesus said that He is the **bread of life** (John 6:35). Only Jesus can give us everything we need. Jesus gives us forgiveness, peace with God, and life forever with Him.

KNEADING BREAD

Grab playdough or kinetic sand to practice kneading and rolling out loaves of "bread." Use the script below to talk about the Bible story as your child(ren) create.

SAY: *Jesus and His friends wanted to go and rest, but a large crowd of people followed Him. Jesus loved people and healed them. When it was dinnertime, Jesus fed a crowd with five loaves and two fish. Jesus showed He is God's son! Only Jesus can give us everything we need.*

