

Feeding of the 5,000!

Making a basket of five loaves and 2 fishes

Read the story in Matthew's Gospel, chapter 14: 13-21. It would be good to find an adult to read the story with, but if you want to read it by yourself, that is also good.

The feeding of the 5,000 is a miracle that shows us the power of God working in Jesus.

Taking, blessing and breaking the food – **5 loaves and 2 fish** – Jesus feeds 5,000 men plus women and children. The food was enough for everyone and there were even **12 baskets full of left-overs.**

Can you imagine taking your school lunch and sharing it with everybody in your school? Not only that, but can you imagine your lunch being enough to make sure everyone was full!

Jesus fed the crowd to show that the power of God was in him. He also wanted people to know that whatever we can offer he will use, no matter how small or unimportant we might think it is.

We cannot offer to Jesus or to other people what we do not have. But, all of us have something to offer to Jesus – time, talents, skills, prayer, resources... lots of different things.

What small thing might we have that Jesus wants us to offer to him?

As in this story, Jesus can transform the gift we offer to him in a way we never expected.

To make the basket:

There are scanned templates in the activities folder for the fish and loaves.

Cut out some paper fish and fold them in half from the tip of the nose. Cut out some shapes from the folded fish as you would if you were cutting out a snowflake.

You need 2 fish....

Next, cut out some loaves. You need 5 loaves.

Finally, take two paper plates and cut one of the plates in half. Staple half-plate to the full-sized plate to make a pouch. Use a wax crayon to colour in the plates with cross-hatching: colour with diagonal lines one-way, then go over the colouring again with diagonal lines going the other way.

I look forward to seeing your baskets of 5 loaves and two fish!