

Together @ Home



Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the miracle of Jesus feeding the 5000.

You can find it in your Bible in:

John 6 v 1–14

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



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 other feeding ministries to help.

Amen

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 to answer together
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.

Family Activity 1

You will need: paper, pens, 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.





A verse to remember

Hebrews 13 v 16

Do not forget to do good to others, and share with them, because such sacrifices please God.

This verse not only reminds us that God loves it when we share what we have with others, but also describes it as a sacrifice. It is not always easy to give what we have to others, but just like the boy in the story, if we give what we have, God can multiply it!

To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it. Why not decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week?

Family Activity 2

Family Picnic

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

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.



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 and 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

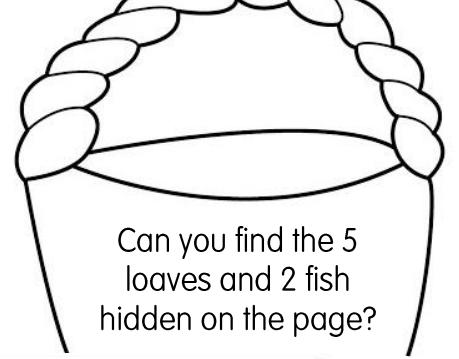
- Spend some time praying for another family in the church.
- Ask God to give you a prophetic word that you can pass on to somebody else.
- Share an encouraging Bible verse with a friend.

Coloring Page



Jesus fed over 5,000 people with one boy's lunch.

Puzzle Sheet

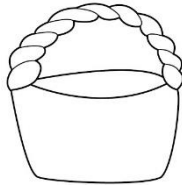


Can you find the 5 loaves and 2 fish hidden on the page?

Which two pictures are exactly the same?



How many baskets of bread were left over?



Miracle Maths Challenge...

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Basket} \times \text{Fish} &= ? - \text{Loaf} \\
 ? &= \square
 \end{aligned}$$



Can you find 9 differences between the two pictures?

