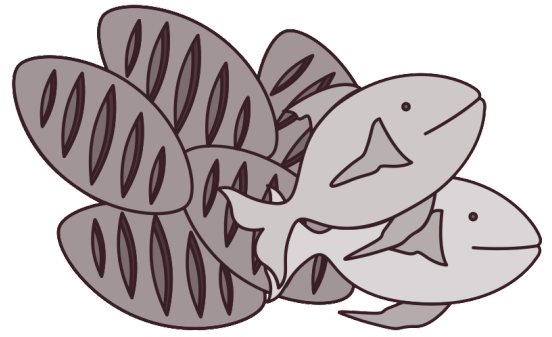


Children's Message

Feeding the 5,000



Scripture: John 6:1-13

Assumptions...

- I tend not to ask kids to respond to questions because you never know what they are going to say and I don't want to put kids in a place where they are going to be embarrassed. So, when I ask questions, I ask kids to think about it without answering. If you want to open it to the kids responding (you know your audience), feel free to do so.

Props: Bread & Fish - real or pretend

Invite & Welcome the children

Script:

Today we are talking about the story of a boy who shared his lunch and thousands of people who were hungry... had enough food to eat and lots left over. I want you to think about a time when you were hungry - really hungry. Think about what your tummy felt like. I remember a time (share a story when you were hungry). Jesus used 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread to make sure that all the people who were gathered there had enough to eat. It was amazing! (if you want to add more to the story, you can.)

Today and for the next few weeks we are learning about stories of food and how God and God's people provide for people who are hungry. Some families in Michigan don't have enough food to eat - or don't have enough healthy food to eat. There are lots of different reasons why kids might not have enough to eat.

Think about the time that you were hungry again... was it easy or difficult to focus when you were hungry? Sometimes I get "hangry" when I am hungry and angry (or use another example)!

There are lots of ways that we can learn about hunger and do something about it! One thing that your family can do is collect food to donate to a food pantry (if there is a local food pantry you might highlight that). Talk with the grown-ups in your family about ways that you can do something to stop hunger!

Just like the boy who shared his lunch, you can share God's love and help feed people too!

Let's pray... Dear God, thank you for stories in the Bible that teach us about how much you care about each one of us. We know you care about our needs, especially having food to eat. Help us to learn about hunger in our community and how we can take action. Help us to show your love and care with others. Amen.