

ALLEY LG – Nov 14th/15th

Bible Story: One Fish, Two Fish, Bread's the Side Dish (Feeding the 5,000) • *John 6:1-13*

Bottom Line: Use what you have to lend a hand.

Memory Verse: "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." *Matthew 5:16, NIV*

Life App: Service—lending a hand to help someone else.

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

{LARGE GROUP LEADERS: *For the telling of the Bible story, you will need to pick a small group leader to lead the kids in actions. Try to pick one who can be animated and fun. As you tell the story you will have to guide them as to what you want them to do.}*

Two easels are set up on stage with paper/canvas. Below the easels, a tarp should be set up to protect your floors. Next to each of the easels, place a poncho and a paper plate with paint.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

Worship:

My Lighthouse
This Little Light of Mine
This I Believe

LG Leader doesn't come out immediately. He is running late.

Opener

STORYTELLER(Off Stage): "I'm coming. Give me ... uh ... *(dry heave sound)* ... gross! Give me just a minute. *(Beat.)* WHERE'S MY SOCK?! Has anyone seen my sock?"

There's a loud commotion coming from backstage.

"Uh ... I'm ... almost ... finished!"

Host rushes onto stage with his space suit on, but he's missing a shoe and sock. He is completely out of breath and his hair is disheveled. He's carrying a bucket full of random objects for the game.

HOST: "So sorry I'm late. *(Stop abruptly to dry heave and groan.)* Sorry about that too! *(Turn quickly to look around.)* It happens when I walk too fast ... *(double over to dry heave and groan again)* ... and when I turn too fast. My name is Captain [Host's name], and I would like to welcome you to OUTER SPACE! *(Look around.)* Well, this isn't exactly outer space, but my ultimate goal is to spend lots of time

out there among the stars! Over the last couple weeks, I've rekindled an old dream of mine: TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT! (*Double over to dry heave.*) But the thought of speeding through space right now isn't sitting so well with my stomach.

"Let me be the first to tell you that this is no easy dream. Over the last couple weeks, my body has endured great hardship as I have prepared for a trip to Mars. I plan on serving the world by exploring space on the crew of a spaceship where they need all hands on deck! When you're on a spaceship you have to serve and do your part to help the complete the mission. That's why all month long we're taking a look at service.

CG: Service Slide

"Service is lending a hand to help someone else. It'd be amazing to help establish the first-ever space colony on the planet Mars! But it seems my body ... (*dry heave*) has limits. Since I couldn't get on a G-force simulator, ...

CG: G-force simulator Slide

"... I thought I'd try the next best thing: the Tilt-A-Whirl at the local amusement park.

CG: Tilt-A-Whirl ride Slide

"And wow, let me tell you ... whoever thought it would be a good idea to strap an unsuspecting human being into a giant centrifuge thingy where they spin you in circles at like a gabillion miles an hour is CRA-ZY. As soon as that ride started spinning, I said to myself, 'Houston, we have a problem!' Ever since I got off that tilt-a-most-crazy-idea-ever, let's just say that my stomach as been a little off! This is why I was late. Every time the car moved for more than two minutes, I would feel like I was going to be sick!

"Please accept my sincerest apologies for my tardiness and appearance. If it is any consolation, we are going to play a pretty awesome game. I need two volunteers who love to paint.

Select two volunteers and bring them to the easels.

"I will need both of you to capture the beauty and miracle of space travel on paper for this whole room—and especially me—to see! I find that a beautiful piece of art calms my stomach. Sooo, all you have to do is paint a space shuttle in 60 seconds. Sounds easy enough, right? You may be wondering where your brushes are located. In my queasy confusion this morning, I thought I was throwing the paintbrushes into this bucket, but it seems we have no brushes. Therefore, you must paint your space shuttle using one of these objects. Let's take a minute to review your choices.

Pull the random objects out of the bucket one at a time.

"You may use as many objects as you like to paint your masterpiece. Just remember, you have 60 seconds to complete it. Any questions? Great. On your marks, get set, PAINT!

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids play game.

CG: 60-second countdown

After 60 seconds, call time.

“That was amazing! Just look these pieces of artwork. Clearly, both of you are masters of arts because these random objects did not slow you down at all! And after seeing them, I’m feeling much better! Everybody give it up for our volunteers.

Lead applause and dismiss the volunteers.

“Sometimes you simply have to use what you have to get the job done! This reminds me of our story today. Like our artists who used what was available to create beautiful artwork, we will hear about a boy who used what he had to lend a hand

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “. As I tell this story, I will need your help to make sound effects to go along with our story. To do this, I have asked _____ (Small group leader) to come on stage and direct all the sounds. You simply have to follow _____ and do what he does. Let’s practice. If I say in the story the people laughed hysterically, then you would all ...

SGL leads the kids in a hysterical laugh.

“Make sense? Good! The Bible story we are telling today actually happened, and it took place long ago. It was around the time during Jesus’ ministry when He was the most popular with the people. Everywhere Jesus went huge crowds followed Him because they wanted to see what He was going to do and say next. Up to this point Jesus had already made a paralyzed man walk, turned water into wine, and healed a sick kid who was near death!

“In our true story today, Jesus and His disciples had just crossed the Sea of Galilee and went to a mountainside to get some rest and relaxation. That’s when they noticed a massive crowd coming toward them.

SGL leads kid to stomp their feet on the ground to sound like a huge mob of people.

“When I say massive crowd, I’m talking like thousands of people. In fact, the Bible says the crowd numbered 5,000 men! That doesn’t count all the women and kids.

SGL leads kids to stomp their feet on the ground furiously to sound like an even bigger mob of people.

WE NEED BREAD

STORYTELLER: “As the crowd approached, Jesus leaned over and asked Phillip where they should buy bread for all these people. It was clear to Jesus that these people were hungry. My stomach makes a sound like a bear when I’m hungry so growl like a bear.

SGL grabs his tummy and starts growling like a bear.

STORYTELLER: “Oh! Well, this was a giant crowd of hungry people, and the thought of finding enough bread to feed them all was a little overwhelming for Philip. You see, Philip was always good with numbers and loved math. Let’s pretend he had a calculator and let’s pretend he dusted it off to estimate the cost of feeding everyone.

SGL holds an imaginary calculator in his hand and begins to dramatically push buttons while making “BEEP” noises.

“If his calculations were correct, it would cost more than half a year’s wages to purchase enough bread for everyone to take one BITE of bread! Feeding the crowd would take a lot of money!

SGL rubs his fingers together to make a money gesture and says “CHA-CHING!”

“Digging into whatever sort of pockets they had back then, they might have found a rock or some lint, but the disciples definitely didn’t have that kind of money! Although Jesus was the one who had asked the question, He already had a plan in mind that wouldn’t cost a dime. Don’t forget, Jesus is God, so He specializes in performing miracles and He was about to do the impossible. But in the meantime, Philip was panicking.”

SGL puts hands on cheeks and screams as loud as he can. Think bathroom scene in Home Alone.

A BOY AND HIS LUNCH

STORYTELLER: “Earlier that morning, a young boy had packed his lunch for his day. He grabbed a couple of fish from his father’s catch the previous night and five small loaves of barley bread his mom had baked fresh. No doubt the bread filled his sack lunch with an amazing aroma.

SGL breathes in deep with eyes closed and a big smile.

“Just like everyone else, the boy joined the crowd to see Jesus. Andrew, one of Jesus’ disciples, spotted the sack lunch the boy was carrying and asked if he would share. Without hesitation, the boy walked over to Jesus and gave up his food.

SGL holds out arm as if holding a lunchbox and stomps his feet to represent the boy walking.

“With fish and bread in His hands, Jesus began to roll out His plan.”

JESUS FEEDS ALL

STORYTELLER: “Standing on the mountainside, Jesus could see there was plenty of grass and space for everyone to sit. After He instructed everyone to take a seat, Jesus gave thanks to God for the blessing of the boy’s lunch. With the help of His disciples, they begin to distribute the small loaves of bread. Everyone was given as much as they wanted.

SGL puts his hands at his mouth as if eating and says, “NOM NOM NOM NOM NOM.”

“Jesus did the same with the fish. They distributed to whoever wanted to eat it and they were able to enjoy as much as they wanted.

SGL again puts his hands at his mouth as if eating and says, “NOM NOM NOM NOM NOM.”

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Before long, everyone in the crowd who was hungry had eaten their fill. Then Jesus instructed the disciples to pick up the leftovers. They were totally amazed at this point and they were about to be amazed even more.

SGL drops his jaw, opens his eyes big, and says, “UHHHHHH.”

“Check this out. The Bible says (*open Bible and read John 6:13*), ‘So they gathered what was left over from the five barley loaves. They filled 12 baskets with the pieces left by those who had eaten.’ (NIV) They had LEFTOVERS! Don’t forget—this meal came from a young boy’s sack lunch. With just that bread and fish in hand, Jesus was able to feed over 5000 people. More than that, the people were able to eat all they wanted! And then there were even LEFTOVERS!

SGL holds his belly, burps really loudly, and looks incredibly content.

“And they were content! Jesus had performed a miracle using what the boy had on hand! Give it up for [Host’s name].

Storyteller leads applause as SGL exits.

“So many times, kids think they are too young to make a difference in the world. Maybe you believe this, too. Maybe you’ve been thinking today that you don’t have much to offer others. Do not believe this lie for a second. You have gifts and abilities that God wants to use. He doesn’t want you to wait until tomorrow or until you hit middle school. God can use whatever you have to offer now. Even if you feel like you don’t have much, it is your job to do something with the little you do have. It’s like our Bottom Line says:

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**Use what you have to lend a hand.** Just like the boy from the story today, when we simply offer what we have, God can make amazing things happen for those who need a hand. Let’s pray.”

Pray

HOST: “Dear God, thank You for the example of the young boy who gave his sack lunch. Let his example serve as a reminder to us that You are big and powerful. Help us to trust that You, God, can do anything! I pray the kids in this room recognize they can make a difference for You and for Your glory right now! Give them the faith needed to serve others in big ways. We love You and ask all these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.