

CITY SG – 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.

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to give you ideas to help your kids understand what it is they have that they can use to serve others. Pray that you'll be able to encourage those who don't feel like they have many material possessions or talents and skills to help others. Ask God to encourage them that there's always something they can use to lend a hand.

Picture This! (*application activity / review the Bible story*)

What You Need: "Bible Story Images" Activity Pages (one per child), crayons/markers

What You Do:

- Hand out the "Bible Story Images" Activity Pages to each child.
- Instruct the kids to color the "Bible Story Images" as you review the story.

Images:

- Image #1: Mountainside with lots of people. What does this picture show? (*The Bible says there were over 5,000 HUNGRY people in the crowd that day.*)
- Image #2: Question marks and dollar signs. What are these question marks and dollar signs for? (*When Jesus asked Philip where they could find food to feed the hungry crowd, Philip said, "It would take half a year's salary to buy enough bread to give every person just one bite." Philip had NO idea what to do!*)
- Image #3: Boy. What did this little boy do? (*A little boy was there that day with his small lunch of five loaves of bread and two small fish. He gave what he had to help serve others!*)
- Image #4: Hand raised up. Who raised their hands? (*Jesus prayed over the small lunch and then began to pass it out. He kept passing and passing and passing. And people kept eating and eating and eating.*)
- Image #5: Smiling faces. Why the smiling faces? (*Every single person there that day received something to eat!*)
- Image #6: 12 Baskets. What does this picture show? (*There was so much food that they even had leftovers!*)

What You Say:

"I love this story! Jesus performed a miracle for the crowd that day. But it might not have happened without a little boy, just like you, who was willing to share what he had. He chose to serve others that day instead of keeping his lunch for himself. And when he did, Jesus used that boy's small lunch to

feed THOUSANDS of people. Isn't that amazing? Maybe you don't think you have much to offer. But God wants you to use what you have to serve others. And just like that little boy so long ago, you can **[Bottom Line] use what you have to lend a hand.**"

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you used what you had, even if it didn't seem like much, to lend a hand and serve others. What happened? How did your act of service change you?)

Spoon Race

What You Need: 10 ping-pong balls per bin, 20 plastic spoons per bin, masking tape

What You Do:

- Use the masking tape to mark a starting and turn-around line on the floor about five feet apart.
- Split the group into two teams. If teams are unequal, designate one child to go twice from the smaller team.
- Instruct the teams to line up behind the starting line.
- Select one child on each team to be the "Helper." This person from each team is the only one allowed to use his/her hands.
- Kids must carry the ping-pong ball on the spoon to the turn-around line and back and then pass the ball to the next person in line without dropping the ball.
- Kids holding the spoons CANNOT use their hands. If the ball is dropped, the "Helper" can run up and help the person put the ball back on the spoon, but he or she must head back to the starting line and try again.
- The first team to finish wins!

What You Say:

"What would have made this game SO much easier? (Pause.) That's right! It would have been a WHOLE lot easier if you could use your hands! Thank goodness we can lend a hand when we serve others! In Large Group we found out about someone just like you who was able to lend a hand to serve in a really big way." Sometimes we might not think we have much to offer that could make a big difference. But you DO! Just like that little boy who gave his lunch, you can **[Bottom Line] use what you have to lend a hand.**"

In the Spotlight (memory verse activity)

What You Need: Flashlight (one per bin), 3 Memory verse pages (one with each of the three parts of the verse). (Part 3: And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven)

What You Do:

Third Graders:

- Look up Matthew 5:16 and review as a group.
- Let kids take turns being "in the spotlight." Shine the light on the kids, one at a time, as each child repeats the verse. If they get stuck, another friend can "lend a hand" by helping them finish the verse.
- Repeat until everyone has a chance to "be in the spotlight" (if they want to be) and say this month's memory verse.

1st-2nd Graders:

- Review the first part of the memory verse with the group, holding up the paper (*Let your light shine so others can see it*). “We learned part 1 2 weeks ago.”
- Review the second part of the memory verse with the group, holding up the paper (*Then they will see the good things you do*.) “We learned this part of the verse last week.”
- Now add the last part of the verse. Hold up the paper, (*And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven*) read the verse TO the children and say it together a few times.
- Let kids take turns being “in the spotlight.” Shine the light on the kids, one at a time, as each child repeats the last part of the verse. If they get stuck, another friend can “lend a hand” by helping them finish the verse.
- Repeat until everyone has a chance to “be in the spotlight” (if they want to be) and say this part of the month’s memory verse.

What You Say:

“I love the way you were willing to lend a hand by jumping in to help your friend in the spotlight today. We have opportunities every single day to serve others and lend a hand. One BIG thing to remember about serving is that you don’t have to have a lot of money or stuff or be super smart or fast or have some magical powers. You can simply **[Bottom Line] use what you have to lend a hand**. And when you do, you’ll be shining a bright light to let others see how much God loves them. The good works you do as you lend a hand can point other people to God. So remember this week to **[Bottom Line] use what you have to lend a hand**.”

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids what they have done to serve others
- Challenge them to continue looking for ways to serve those people in their lives

What You Say:

“pick a person you see most every day—like your mom or dad, a grandparent or aunt, a brother or sister, neighbor or friend—and serve them this week. Why don’t we pray and ask God to help us **[Bottom Line] use what you have to lend a hand?**”

“Heavenly Father, thanks so much for the story about this little boy who shared what he had that day so long ago. Help us to see the things You’ve given us to lend a hand. We want to serve others because we know that when we do, we’re shining a light that points others to You. We love You! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

PARENT CONNECTION AT PICK UP

Tell the parents that you talked about someone’s lunch today! Tell the kids to explain what that means on the way home.