

CITY LG September 7- 8, 2024

Today's Bible Story: More Than Enough (Jesus Feeds 5,000) • *John 6:1-13*

Today's Bottom Line: Use what you have to help others.

Monthly 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 (NirV)

Monthly Virtue: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

LG Supply: One taplight for each small group, one each of these items: a bottle of water, a drawing, a stuffed animal, a bandaid a flashlight, a book, a snack

WORSHIP

Shine a light

At the top of my lungs

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups.

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! My name is [your name] and I'm so excited to be here with you today! If you're glad you're here, give a friend a high five like this. (*Demonstrate.*)

This month we're talking about how our faith in Jesus changes us and moves us to treat people with love and compassion. That's how we shine His light for everyone to see!

I've got a really fun game to get us started today, and your small group will be your team.

Now, you might have noticed that we've got these tap lights here across the front of the stage. (*Reference the tap lights.*) There's one light for each group.

Explain how the lights correspond to each small group.

I'll hold up an item. Your group will need to come up with one way you could use that specific item to help someone. You might have lots of ideas, but just pick one idea that sounds good to your whole group. When you have your answer, raise your hand, because your leader will pick one person from your group to run up to the stage and hit the tap light for your team. It'll turn on like this. (*Demonstrate.*) If you're the first person who taps their light, I'll let you share your answer for everyone to hear. Then we'll reset the lights and go again.

Sound good? Okay, let's get started!

Here's your first item. How could you use THIS to help someone?

For each round of the game, hold up an item from the box that could be used to help someone. a bottle of water, a drawing, a stuffed animal, a bandaid a flashlight, a book, a snack

Wow—you sure lit up the room with your answers! You worked together to think of ways that you could help others . . . and that's a big part of shining our light as followers of Jesus.

Well, I'm glad to be here with you as we talk about how we should treat others as followers of Jesus. *(Hold up Bible.)* We can see in the Bible how Jesus treated people with love and compassion, and the story I have for you today is a great example of that.

We can find this story in the book of John, which is one of the books known as the Gospels that tell the story of Jesus' life. John, who wrote this book, was one of Jesus' closest friends. He wrote about several important miracles that show us that Jesus is the Son of God. John wanted everyone to hear about what Jesus did and said so that they might put their faith in Jesus too.

Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Bible Story

I'm sure the boy in the story had no idea what Jesus might do with the bread and fish he had brought that day. The boy didn't have much . . . but he chose to give what he did have to Jesus. And Jesus used that one small gift to do a miracle that fed thousands of hungry people!

This is what we need to remember. Get on your feet:

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Use what you have to help others.

SLIDE: Theme

You know, it would have been really easy for the boy to think that his little bit of food wouldn't be enough to share. But he was generous enough to give what he had . . . and look what Jesus did with it!

Jesus showed compassion to the crowd. He knew they had come to see Him, and He knew they were hungry. He performed an amazing miracle and fed ALL of them—just like that.

You might think that you don't have much to give. But when you choose to trust Jesus and offer what you have, you never know how God might use it to meet the needs of others. That's a great way that we can shine our light and show compassion.

SLIDE: Virtue

Remember, compassion is **caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.**

We can show compassion by looking for what other people need . . . and being willing to share what we have. It feels good when someone sees what WE need and does something to help—even if it's as simple as a hug or a smile to brighten our day.

Or when someone spends time with us and makes us feel special. We can shine our light by using what we have to help the people around us. Let's pray and ask God to help us do that.

Dear God, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You for this story of how Jesus showed compassion to a whole crowd of people. Help us to give what we have, like the boy in the story. Give us wisdom to see how we can share what You've given us and show compassion to everyone around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part and just have kids bring up their money.

OFFERING:

We have started raising money for an organization called Hope Mobility. It was founded by Michael Panther who grew up as a child with a disability in Sudan. Check out Michael's story.

VIDEO: Michael's Story

Our focus will be raising money for wheelchairs for kids. Each pediatric wheelchair costs \$275 and we will see how many wheelchairs we can purchase to help kids in Africa!

SLIDE: Theme