LESSON 6

JESUS FEEDS 5 000 PEOPLE



Aim: **To show the children that Jesus told people not to worry about food which doesn't satisfy for ever – but to trust him for food that gives eternal satisfaction and everlasting life.**

Scripture Reading: **John 6:1–13, 25–40**

Memory Verse: **John 1:5**
The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

When many people come to the church or your house for a feast, preparations have to start days ahead. Firewood has to be gathered, water collected, cooking pots sorted out and, of course, food collected.

Main points of the Lesson

1. Many people were talking about Jesus. Stories of his healing miracles and his teaching were being passed on, so that many wanted to see him for themselves. One day a huge crowd came to listen to Jesus. There were 5 000 men and many women and children (6:1–3).
2. No preparations had been made to feed all those people. Jesus asked his disciples for ideas on how to take care of them (6:5b–6).
3. Philip worked out that even with an enormous amount of money they would be unable to buy a little for everyone. Then Andrew found a boy who had brought along some food, but of course it was only enough for himself (6:7–9).
4. **Describe the instructions Jesus gave his disciples and what he did with the food which the boy was willing to share. Show Picture 6.** In the end everyone had enough to eat (6:10–13)!
5. Jesus then quickly left the people. He was sad because he knew they only wanted to see his miracles for selfish reasons. They had just eaten without making any preparations, but they did not understand what that told them about Jesus (6:25–26).

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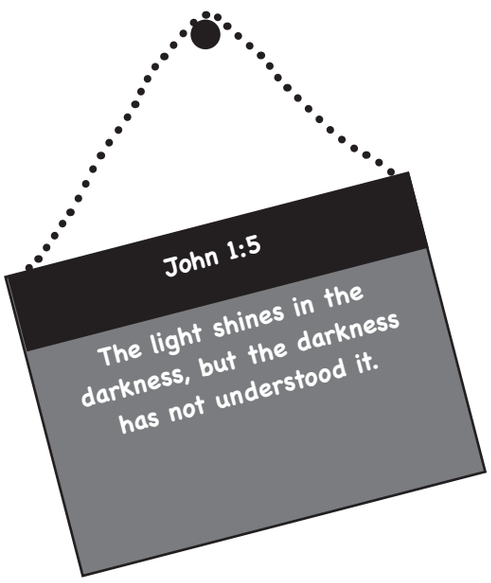


Our Response to the Story

Jesus wanted the people to understand he had not come to hand out physical food, but to satisfy them with spiritual food. God wanted the people to trust in Jesus, the Son whom the Father had sent (6:27–29). Feeding on Jesus, who is the bread of life, means having a friend for life who is always there with help and support, no matter what (6:35, 40).

Jesus said these words first of all to the people who could hear him speak during his life on earth, but he is also speaking to us. He is the bread of life to everybody who trusts him.

Instil the Memory Verse



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