

GOD CAN USE ME:  
GIVING



Tithes and offerings



"Give, and you will receive....  
The way you give to others is the way God will give to you."  
Luke 6:38

SERVING GOD

## Lesson 23: *5 Loaves and 2 Fish* (Condensed Version)

Saint Matthew's Anglican Church Children's Ministries

GOD CAN USE ME - GIVING (Scripture: John 6: 1 - 59)

Year 2. Kingdom Life  
Unit 8: Serving God

**Objectives:** To explain that: \*Today's story is about Serving God through giving. \*Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of 5000 people from just 5 loaves and 2 fish. \*Jesus did this to show the people that he was the true Bread of Life that came down from Heaven to give life to the world. \*The food was given to Jesus by a young boy, and Jesus made it into a life-giving gift to others. \*Jesus can use our gifts too, to give life to others. As we give our gifts, we will also receive blessing from God. \*The Bible teaches us to give our tithes and offerings to the church. The church then uses that money to bring God's life to the world - to spread the Kingdom of God and to help those in need.

**"I Wonder" Questions:** (*Look at poster on page 3*) \*What do you see in this picture? \*I wonder if all the people listening to Jesus are hungry. \*I wonder why the boy is giving his lunch to Jesus. \*I wonder what Jesus will do with his lunch. Let's find out more in our lesson...

**Lesson Props:** Story poster on page 3. (*Place the story poster over the lesson poster for the first part of the lesson. Then show the lesson poster at the end as indicated in the lesson.*)

**Lesson Summary:** In our last lesson we learned that those who serve others are the greatest in the Kingdom of God. Our story today is about serving God through **giving**. Can you think of a time you gave a gift to someone? (*Children respond*) In this story Jesus performs a **big** miracle when a young boy gives a small gift. Jesus had been teaching and healing a big crowd of people all day, and when evening came, they were hungry. The disciples wanted to send the people away to get their own food. But Jesus had a different plan! A young boy gave his small lunch of 5 loaves of bread and 2 small fish. Jesus took the food, looked up to heaven and gave thanks to God. He broke the food into pieces and gave them to the disciples to hand out to the people. Then something amazing happened! The small lunch of 5 loaves and 2 fish just kept increasing until it was enough to feed all the people! There were over 5000 men, women, and children! Jesus had performed this miracle with just 5 loaves and 2 fish. The disciples even picked up 12 baskets full of leftover food. Can you believe it? Through this miracle Jesus wanted to show the people that he was the true Bread of Life that came down from Heaven to give life to the world. When the people saw the miracle, many of them believed that Jesus was the Forever King that they had been waiting for. This story also teaches us about serving God through giving. Jesus took what the boy gave to him and made it into a life-giving gift to others. Jesus can also use **our** gifts to give **life** to others. What are some things that we can give to Jesus that he can use for his Kingdom? (*Our hearts, our time, our talents, our money etc.*) There are many things we can give to Jesus, and one way is giving money. (*Switch to lesson poster*) The Bible teaches us to give our tithes and offerings to the church. Every Sunday, in our church service, people bring some of their money and put it into an offering plate (*point to offering plate*). This money is called tithes and offerings. People do this because they love Jesus, want to obey him, and bless others. The church uses the tithes and offerings to bring God's life to the world - to spread the Kingdom of God and to help those in need. Giving is not just for grown-ups. Jesus can use anything we give to him to bring **his life** to others. In our memory verse, God also promises that as we give to others, so we will also receive blessing from God. Let's finish our lesson by reading the memory verse. (*Children read verse on poster*)

**Suggested Questions:** \***What does this story tell us about Jesus?** (That he performed a miracle when he fed more than 5000 people from 5 loaves and 2 fish. That he is the true Bread of God that came down from Heaven to give life to the world. That he can use the smallest gift to bring life to others.) \***What did Jesus use to feed the 5000 people?** (5 small loaves and 2 small fish that a young boy gave to him. It was a big miracle to feed so many from such a small amount of food) \***Can Jesus use the small gifts of a child?** (Yes, he can use both small and big gifts to bring his life to the world.) \***What are some things that we can give to Jesus that he can use for his Kingdom?** (Our hearts, our time, our talents, our money etc.)

**Bible Memory Verse:** "Give, and you will receive....The way you give to others is the way God will give to you." Luke 6:38 – NCV



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