



Children's Object Lesson

Title: God Works Through Kids

Scripture Reference: John 6:1-14; 1 Timothy 4:12

Supplies: Bible, loaf of French or Italian-style bread, can of sardines or other fish

Teach:

Open your Bible to John 6. Tell the Bible story in your own words.

A huge crowd of people followed Jesus because they saw how He healed the sick. Jesus and His disciples went up a mountain and sat down. Jesus asked the disciples, "Where will we buy bread to feed these people?"

Philip replied, "Two hundred denarii (8 month's wages) would not be enough money to even give each person a little bit of bread."

Andrew told Jesus, "There is a boy who has five barley loaves and two fish. But that is not enough."

Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down. There were over 5,000 men plus women and children. Then Jesus took the boy's bread and fish and blessed them. He began breaking the loaves into pieces. He gave the pieces to the disciples, and they gave them to the crowds of people.

The people ate until they were full. Then the leftover pieces were put into baskets until 12 baskets were full!

Discuss:

Display the bread and fish. You may choose to pass the items around to allow girls and boys to briefly hold and examine them.

Say: "The boy only had 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. His lunch was small, but it was more than enough for Jesus. What do you think the boy felt when he saw all of the people were able to eat because he gave Jesus his small lunch?" Allow a few kids to respond.

Say: “Today is a special day at church. We are celebrating you, kids! You are an important part of our church. God worked through the young boy in our story to feed over 5,000 people. God can work through you to serve and care for our church, too. You can serve Jesus and tell others about Him. Listen to this verse in 1 Timothy.”

Read 1 Timothy 4:12.

Say: “The Bible tells us that you can be an example to us (indicate the congregation) and to the world. You can tell others about Jesus with your words and actions. Let me tell you about a couple of kids like you who wanted to help people hear about Jesus.”

Apply:

Share the stories of Abby and Brody.

“An eleven-year old girl named Abby saved her chore money for 6 months. She worked hard not to spend her money on treats so she could save it for a special family trip. But Abby felt like God wanted her to use the money for something else. Abby decided to give all the money as a missions offering, but she wondered whether her \$32.20 would really make a difference. But guess what? Her obedience to God inspired others to give, too! Now more than 100 people have pledged to give \$32 to missions, and thousands of dollars have been given to support missions around the world.”

“Another kid, a twelve-year old named Brody, wanted to give to missions, but he didn’t have any money. But Brody did have a unique hobby! Brody liked to restore ax heads and make new wooden handles for them. Brody’s parents suggested that he sell some of the axes he had repaired to raise money. Brody used his time and creative talents to support missions.”

“Like the boy in our Bible story, Abby and Brody served God by offering what they had. God used and multiplied their offerings as part of His good plan.”

Challenge:

Say: “Everyone—young or old—can serve God with their words and actions. This week, I want you to ask God to help you find ways to tell others about Jesus. Maybe you can tell a friend about Jesus while you play outside. Or maybe you can invite a neighbor to come to church with you next Sunday. Maybe you have some money that you want to give to our missions offering, or you might want to serve with your family at the food bank (or other local ministry). There are many ways you can help share the good news of Jesus. Let’s ask God to show us how we can serve Him and tell others about Jesus.”

Pray:

Say: “God, thank You for each of the boys and girls here with us today. They are a blessing to our church. Please help us use our time, talents, and treasures to tell others about Jesus this week and every week. In Your name, amen.”