

## Jesus feeds the 5000

**Passage:** John 6

**Theme:** Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need.

**Resources :** Memory stick with song words and music; CD with music on; Laptop (check cable); Projector (check 2 cables); Extension lead; Schools team t-shirts (3 spare); Spare scripts. 3 robes, 2 baskets, 5 bread rolls, 2 fish, lunch box, nice bread loaf, crib card for gameshow answers.

**Person 1:** Intro, Jesus, Prayer

**Person 2:** Andrew, Questions

**Person 3:** Talk, Philip

**Before you start:** Place lunch box with five loaves and 2 fish centre front.

### Introduction

Hello everyone. It's great to be back! We are \_\_\_\_\_ (insert church/organisation name), I am \_\_\_\_\_, and this is \_\_\_\_\_ (introduce rest of the team).

We're going to play School Fortunes. [PPT] We're going to split you into two teams [split left and right]. We asked 100 primary school children what they need most. Can you guess what they said? [PPT]

[Take left hand first, if they're not right, take someone on your right hand etc. Continue for 6 answers then run through any remaining answers. Use your crib card to check answers - at end of script. If they're correct click on the number that they've

got right which should expose the words and numbers of answers. If they get it wrong, click on the black space to the right and an X should appear for a moment.]

There are lots of things that we need, but in our story from the Bible, Jesus says that he can help people with what they need...

## Story:

[Jesus and disciples look over children's heads]

Jesus: There must be over 5000 people. Where shall we get bread for them?

Philip: It would take a year's wages to buy enough food for each one to have a bite!

Andrew: This boy has five loaves and two fishes! [Laughing as he picks up lunch box] That's not going to go far!

Jesus: Bring them to me! [Andrew hands over box] Get the people to sit down. [Andrew and Philip mime settling people. Jesus looks up to heaven.] Thank you Father. [Give the bread to the disciples]

[Disciples pretend to give it out, and bring back baskets straining as they do so]

Andrew: Woah! This is incredible. There is enough for everyone! And we've got food left over!

## Talk:

There are so many things we think we need. We thought of some of them in the game at the start. Maybe we got some of them for Christmas.

In the story we have just heard from the Bible, Jesus has been doing amazing things. He'd been saying amazing things. And lots of people are following him. But now, it's late, and everyone is getting hungry. There are over 5000 people and all they have is 5 bread loaves and two fish.

Jesus takes the bread and fish, thanks God for it and his friends give it out. [Pause] And when they give it out, everyone has enough, and there are not one, not two, but 12 basketfuls of food left over! Jesus gives over 5000 people what they need from five bread loaves and two fish and there is more left over! Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need.

But the story doesn't end there. Later, people get hungry and want Jesus to feed them again. They'd had bread and fish, but they want more. And Jesus calls himself [Hold up loaf] the 'Bread of Life', the 'Bread of Life'! He says he can give people not just food but life forever. Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need, even giving us life forever.

There are lots of things that we think we need [remind people what was said during School Fortunes]. And we can end up always wanting more: 'If only I had a smartphone.' 'If only I had more friends.' 'If only I was better at writing.' 'If only I didn't get angry.' 'I wish I wasn't so scared of the dark.' Many of those are good things. But Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need, so I don't need to worry. I don't need

to always want more. I can be happy with who I am, what I'm good at and what I've got because Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need.

**Song:** God's love is big

### Questions:

I'm going to ask you some questions so that you can show me how well you've been listening:

1. In our story from the Bible, how many people does Jesus feed with 5 loaves of bread and two fish? [over 5000 people]
2. Can you finish this sentence, Jesus says he is the 'Bread of...' What? [Life]
3. What do Christians believe that we can learn from this story? [Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need.]

### Prayer:

To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. So, if you can please close your eyes so you aren't distracted and if you want to agree with my prayer, you can say, "Amen" at the end with me....

Dear God, thank you so much for ..... school. Thank you that we have learnt from this story, that Christians believe that Jesus gives us everything we need. Help us to be happy with what we have and not to worry about things. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. **Amen.**

### Close:

Thanks for inviting us and taking part so well! We'll see you soon.

This is how 100 primary school children voted when asked 'What do you need?'

1	Toys and games (inc. sports equipment, bike, GTA)	25
2	Food & Water inc. Chocolate, sweets	21
3	Friends & Family e.g. Brother, parents, support	13
4	Electronics e.g. TV, phone, computer	12
5	Things to keep us warm (inc. Clothes, hats, house, bed, bedding)	9
6	Animals e.g. Dog, horse, unicorn	8
7	Life and Health (inc. Exercise & safety, life, plants, oxygen, soap)	7
8	Education e.g. Good SATS result, book bag, water bottle	5

