

Jesus Feeds 5000

Luke 12:22-34 & John 6:1-15

Characters: Narrator, Jesus, Phillip, Andrew, Crowd member

Narrator: Jesus went to the far shore of Galilee. A large crowd had gathered to hear him teach. Jesus began to teach the crowd:

Jesus: Do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds? Can anyone add a single hour to his life by worrying? Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Not even Solomon in his entire splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is there today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith?! Seek his kingdom, and God will provide for you. Do not be afraid, little flock. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Give yourself a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be.

Narrator: After Jesus had finished teaching the crowd, it was time for lunch. Jesus turned to his disciple Philip, and asked him:

Jesus: Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?

Philip: Eight months of wages could not buy enough bread for each one to have a single bite!

Narrator: Jesus was merely testing Philip, because he knew the true answer to the question and how he would handle feeding the crowd. Andrew had overheard the conversation between Philip and Jesus, and brought to them a small boy.

Andrew: This small boy has five barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?

Jesus: Have the people sit down, and I will pray and give thanks to God.

Narrator: The crowd sat down, Jesus gave thanks, and then distributed as much food to each person as he or she wanted. When everyone had finished eating, Jesus told his disciples:

- Jesus: Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.
- Narrator: The disciples gathered the leftovers, and gathered twelve basketfuls of additional food. The crowd saw this miracle, and knew that Jesus was the true Prophet to save the world.
- Crowd member: Surely this is the Prophet who is come into the world.
- Narrator: Jesus knew that the crowd intended to come and make him king by force, so he withdrew again to a mountain by himself.