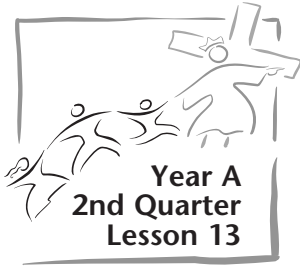


LESSON



A Little Boy Shares

COMMUNITY

I show love to my family and friends.

References

Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:32–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–13; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 364–371.

Memory Verse

“Do not forget . . . to share with others” (Hebrews 13:16, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that God cares when people are hungry.

Feel sad that some people don’t have enough to eat.

Respond by giving to those in the community who are hungry.

The Message



Friends share with others.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Crowds of people listen to Jesus all day. They see Him heal sick people. By late in the day they are very hungry, but they have nothing to eat. However, a boy has five bread rolls and two fish that he is willing to share. He gives them to Jesus. Jesus prays over the food, and there is enough to feed everybody, with lots left over. Jesus fed 5,000 men and

many women and children from a very small amount of food.

This is a lesson about community.

Jesus saw the need and fed more than 5,000 people from such a small amount of food because He loved them and recognized their need. People who love Jesus help meet the needs of others in their community.

THIRTEEN

Program Outline			
LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	none
1 Readiness Options	up to 10	A. <i>Favorite Foods</i> B. <i>Sharing Hats</i>	modeling clay or play dough or play food, paper plates and utensils hats
* Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	See page 133. *Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	offering device with pictures of families and friends crackers
2 Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story	none
		Bible Study	Bible
		Memory Verse	Bible
3 Applying the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Sharing Song</i>	napkins and crackers, water and disposable cups (optional)
4 Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Sharing Bags</i>	small paper bags, old magazines and scissors or paper and crayons, pen or marker

Teacher Enrichment

"He . . . was just as thoughtful of their temporal necessities as of their spiritual need. The people were weary and faint. There were mothers with babes in their arms, and little children clinging to their skirts. Many had been standing for hours. They had been so intensely interested in Christ's words that they had not once thought of sitting down. . . . Jesus would give them a chance to rest, and He bade them sit down.

"Christ never worked a miracle except to supply a genuine necessity, and every miracle was of a character to lead the people to the tree of life. . . .

"To that great throng, weary and hungry after the long, exciting day, the simple fare was an assurance not only of His power, but of His tender care for them in the common needs of life. . . .

"But Jesus has bidden us, 'Give ye them to eat.' His command is a promise; and behind it is the same power that fed the multitude beside the sea" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 365, 367, 369).

Do all your students have their basic needs met? How can you help those who don't?

Room Decorations

See Lesson 1.

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome

Welcome each child by name as they come in the door. Ask them about their week. Follow up on last week's sharing activity.



Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

You Need:

- modeling clay or play dough or play food
- paper plates and utensils

A. Favorite Foods

Ask each child to name a favorite food and tell why they like it. (Large class option: Form groups of five or six and have adult helpers assist.)

Say: **I'm going to give each of you some clay. With it, I want you to make a model of what you like to eat best.**

Distribute the clay. Allow the children time to make their "food." Or have them pick which of the play foods are their favorites. If possible, have paper plates and utensils for use in serving their "food." Then ask: **What should you do when you have something good?** (Share it.) Say: **Let's share some of our food with someone else.** Walk around the room and ask each child with whom they want to share their food. Help them give that person half.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **What do you think about sharing your food with others? What do you think they thought about it? Why should we share our food? Why should we share anything? We share with others because we are being good friends and . . .**



Friends share with others.

Say that with me.

B. Sharing Hats

You Need:

- hats

Allow about a third of the children (the older ones) to put on two or three hats or other head coverings. Tell half of them that when you say, "It's time to share your hat," they should happily give them to other people. Tell the other half that they should go to a corner of the room and wait for people to ask for a hat.

Say: **Let's pretend that the people with hats/head coverings are rich people. The people without hats are poor people. What do you think the rich people should do?** (Share their hats with the poor people.)

Do you think the poor people should have to ask for a hat? Why or why not? (No, those who have something should be willing to share. Yes, you should always ask if you want something.) Say: **It's time to share your hats.** Allow the first group of students to distribute their hats. Help the other group move toward a corner of the room. When the first group has given out their hats, allow the children without hats to go to the second group and ask for one.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **How did it feel when someone gave you a hat without you asking? How did you feel about having to ask for a hat? What do you think Jesus wants us to do, give our hats away or wait for someone to ask us for them? Why? If we are in God's family, we will be like Jesus and share with others because**



Friends share with others.

Say that with me.

PRAYER AND PRAISE



Fellowship

Welcome all of the children, particularly visitors; celebrate birthdays and make announcements. Review last week's memory verse.

Suggested Songs

- "Something Nice" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 261)
- "Let Us Do Good" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 263)
- "Sharing" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 278)
- "The Sharing Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 138)

Mission

Use a story from *Children's Mission*.

Offering

Continue to use this month's offering device.

Say: **We can share our money with others so they will know about Jesus too. Then they can continue the sharing by telling their friends about Jesus.**

Prayer

** Give each child a small cracker. Let each child thank Jesus for food.

You Need:

- crackers

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

** Be aware of any food allergies and adjust accordingly.

2

Bible Lesson

Experiencing the Story

Gather the children in a semicircle.
 Say: **During our story today I want you to do some actions. We're going to practice them before we start. You will need to listen carefully so you will know when to act.**

When you say:	the children:
hungry	rub tummies
fish	put palms together and wiggle as if a fish swimming
little boy	wiggle little finger
Jesus	point upward
disciples	wiggle fingers

It would be helpful to have an adult helper lead in doing the actions as another person reads or tells the story.

Ask: **How many of you have ever been hungry [rub tummies]? Do you think Jesus [point upward] cares if people are hungry [rub tummies]? Do you think Jesus [point upward] cares if they get enough to eat? Today we are going to talk about how Jesus [point upward] fed a lot of hungry [rub tummies] people with two fish [palms together and wiggle as if a fish] and five loaves of bread that His disciples [wiggle fingers] got from a little boy [wiggle little finger].**

[Note: This may seem complicated for the little ones, but expect a lot of giggles. In the story the words with actions are bold.]

Read or tell the story.

Many people came from far away to listen to **Jesus [point upward]**. Some of the people were sick. They hoped **Jesus**

[point upward] would heal them.

Jesus [point upward] began to tell the people about God's love, and He healed many sick people.

The people had been having such a good time with **Jesus [point upward]** that they hadn't even thought about eating! Now it was almost suppertime, and the people were **hungry [rub tummies]**. The **disciples [wiggle fingers]** said to **Jesus [point upward]**, "Don't You think the people should go home now? It's late and they are **hungry [rub tummies]**."

Jesus [point upward] didn't want the people to go away **hungry [rub tummies]**. So He said to His **disciples [wiggle fingers]**, "Give them something to eat!"

The **disciples [wiggle fingers]** looked at **Jesus [point upward]**. It would take lots and lots of bread and **fish [palms together and wiggle as if a fish]** to give that crowd enough to eat. What could **Jesus [point upward]** mean?

Jesus [point upward] asked, "Do any of the people have food?"

Andrew, one of the **disciples [wiggle fingers]**, said, "A **little boy [wiggle little finger]** has five loaves of bread and two little **fish [palms together and wiggle as if a fish]**. But such a small amount of bread and **fish [palms together and wiggle as if a fish]** will never feed all these people."

Jesus [point upward] asked the **disciples [wiggle fingers]** to have the **hungry [rub tummies]** people sit down. They wondered how **Jesus [point upward]** could give them all something to eat with only the **little boy's [wiggle little finger]** lunch.

Jesus [point upward] prayed; then He began to give the bread and **fish**

[palms together and wiggle as if a fish] to the **disciples** *[wiggle fingers]* to share with the people. And every time **Jesus** *[point upward]* gave the **disciples** *[wiggle fingers]* some bread and **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]*, there was more bread and **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]*! More and more people ate because **Jesus** *[point upward]* kept breaking more bread and more **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]*.

It took a long time to feed everyone. More than 5,000 people ate that day until they were full. When the people finished, **Jesus** *[point upward]* said, "Now let's collect the bread and **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]* that are left over."

The **disciples** *[wiggle fingers]* picked up 12 baskets of leftover bread and **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]*! Much more than the five loaves of bread and two **fish** *[palms together and wiggle as if a fish]* that the **little boy** *[wiggle little finger]* shared with **Jesus** *[point upward]*! **Jesus** *[point upward]* really had blessed the **little boy's** *[wiggle little finger]* food as He shared it with the whole crowd.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **How do you think Jesus fed all of those people with the little boy's lunch? Maybe some people where you live do not have enough food. Jesus loves those people too. He wants everyone to have enough to eat. Maybe your family can share some food with someone who does not have enough. Even though you are small, you can share with others. You are a member of Jesus' family,**

and you can be His helper by sharing with others.



Friends share with others.

Say that with me.

Bible Study

Turn to John 6:1-13 and point to the verses. (Hold the Bible so the children can see the texts.) Say:

This is where today's story is found in God's Word, the Bible.

Read verses 5, 7-13 aloud, paraphrasing as necessary.

You Need:

Bible

Debriefing

Ask: **What did Jesus ask Philip?** (Where to buy bread for the crowd.) **What did Philip say?** (It would cost a lot.) **Which disciple told Jesus about the little boy's lunch?** (Andrew) **What did Jesus do before sharing the bread and fish with the people?** (He prayed, giving thanks for the food.)

Debriefing

Allow response time as you say: **More than 5,000 people shared the little boy's lunch. That is many more people than are in church today. Why do you think the little boy's lunch fed so many people? Would you have given your lunch to Jesus? Let's remember . . .**



Friends share with others.

You Need:

- Bible

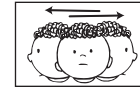
Memory Verse

Show the children the memory verse (Hebrews 13:16) in the Bible and say: **Here is where today's memory verse is found in God's Word, the Bible.** Read the verse aloud, pointing to each word. (**"Do not forget . . . to share with others."**)

Use the following motions to teach the memory verse. Repeat until children know the verse.

"Do not forget

Shake head no.



to share

Put hands on chest, moving forward in an arc to waist level.



with others." Point to several others.



Hebrews 13:16

Put palms together; then open.



3

Applying the Lesson

Sharing Song

You Need:

- napkins
- crackers
- disposable cups (optional)
- water (optional)

Seat the children at a table or on a mat or sheet on the floor. Have a child distribute a napkin to each one.

Say: **The little boy in the story shared his food with Jesus; then Jesus shared it with all the people who had come to hear Him. Let's sing about it.**

Sing the following words to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb":

*Jesus shares His food with us,
Food with us,
Food with us.
Jesus shares His food with us.
Thank You, Jesus.*

Say: **We are going to follow Jesus' example today.**

* Distribute two crackers to every other student. Have them hold them, not eat them. Some of the students may grumble and ask where their crackers are.

Ask: **Are you wondering why everyone didn't get crackers? This song will tell you.** Sing the second verse:

*We can share our food with friends,
Food with friends,
Food with friends.
We can share our food with friends.
We love Jesus.*

Say: **We are going to share our food with each other now. Share your crackers with the person beside you.** Continue singing as each child with the crackers turns to their right and shares with their neighbor. Serve the children small cups of water if desired.

* Be aware of any food allergies and adjust accordingly.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:
What did you think when I gave crackers to some people and not others? How did you feel when someone shared with you? What can you do when you have food and your friend has none? Remember . . .



Friends share with others.

Say that with me.

Adapted from *Fun to Learn Bible Lessons* (Loveland, Colo.: Group Publishing, 1995), K-3, vol. 2, pp. 54, 55.

4

Sharing the Lesson**Sharing Bags**

Ask each child what they think can be shared with someone in their family, school, or church. Make notes as the children speak.

Distribute supplies. Ask the children to cut out from the magazines pictures of things they can share (or assist the children in drawing items). Encourage them to be realistic. Have the children place their pictures or drawings inside their bag. Encourage them to decide who will receive their bag. Help children write on the bag, "I will share my [whatever the child has collected or drawn] with you." Help the children write on the outside of the bag the

name of the person with whom they will share.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:
How does it feel to promise someone that you will share with them? When will you do it? Make sure you give your bag to the person soon. Let's all remember to share with others this week, because . . .



Friends share with others.

Say that with me.

You Need:

- small paper bag for each child
- old magazines and scissors, or paper and crayons
- pen or marker

Closing

Say: **Before we go today, let's thank Jesus for sharing with us and ask Him to help us share with others.**

STUDENT LESSON

A Little Boy Shares

References

Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:32–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–13; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 364–371

Memory Verse

“Do not forget . . . to share with others” (Hebrews 13:16, NIV).

The Message

Friends share with others.

Have you ever been away from home with nothing to eat? One day many people were far away from home at mealtime. Jesus was able to do something good for them.

The sunshine sparkled on the water as a little boy walked beside the lake. He was not alone. Many people gathered on the hillside to see Jesus.

The little boy carefully wiggled his way to the front of the crowd. He listened as Jesus began to tell about God’s love. He saw Jesus heal sick people.

Everything was so exciting that the day went by very quickly! The little boy hadn’t even thought about eating! His mother had packed him a lunch of five small loaves of barley bread and two small fish, but he hadn’t touched it yet.

It was almost sup-
per-time. Jesus’ friends said to Him, “Don’t You think the people should go home now? It’s late, and they are hungry.”

The little boy saw that Jesus didn’t want them to go away hungry. Jesus turned to His disciples. “Give them something to eat!” Jesus was going to feed them!

The disciples looked confused. It would take lots and lots of food to feed all those people! One of Jesus’ disciples, Andrew, smiled at the little boy and asked, “What do you have in your basket?”

“Five small barley loaves and two little fish,” the little boy answered.

Then the little boy heard Jesus ask His disciples, “How much food do you have?”

Andrew shook his head. “We don’t have any. But a little boy has a lunch he is willing to share—five small loaves of barley bread and two little fish. But that’s not enough to feed all these people.”

Jesus said to His disciples, “Have the people sit down.”

First Jesus prayed over the little boy’s food. Then He began to give pieces of the barley bread and fish to the disciples to give to the people. More and more bread and fish

were taken out of the little boy’s basket. More and more people ate. The little boy couldn’t believe his eyes!

It took awhile to feed all the people—5,000 men, and that didn’t include the women and children. When they finished, Jesus said, “Now let’s collect the food that is left.” The little boy watched as the disciples picked up 12 baskets of leftover food!

It was just a little lunch for a little boy. But that little boy was willing to share. And Jesus fed all of those people with that little lunch because He loved them. What can *you* share today?



Do and Say

Sabbath

Read the lesson story and use the following to review the memory verse each day this week.

- “Do not forget to share. . . with others.”** Shake head no.
Place hands on chest, moving forward in an arc to waist level.
- Hebrews 13:16** Point to several others.
Put palms together; then open.

Help your child count out several piles of 10 items such as dried beans. Say: Jesus used the little boy’s lunch to feed many more people than this.

Sunday

Deliver to a friend the Sharing Bag made in Sabbath School. Remind your child that people in God’s family share with others. Sing a sharing song before prayer.

Monday

Let your child help you collect items from your pantry to share with a local shelter or Community Services center. Try to deliver them today.

Thank Jesus for the food your family enjoys.

Tuesday

Read John 6:1–13 together. Let your child hold the Bible as you read.

Ask: What kind of food did the little boy share? Where did he get it?

Let your child make a sandwich to share with you. Thank Jesus that you have something to share.

Wednesday

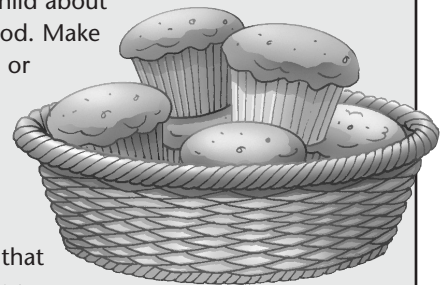
Have your child use motions to tell you the lesson story. For example: **Jesus** [point upward]; **hungry** [rub tummy].

Make plans to invite someone to your Friday evening meal. Let your child choose the entree or dessert.

Thursday

Talk with your child about choosing healthy food. Make some healthy bread or muffins together. Save some for your Friday evening meal.

Thank Jesus for good, healthy food that helps your child grow.



Friday

Let your child help prepare food to serve at dinner tonight. Let your child serve the food.

For worship, act out the lesson story. Help your child teach the memory verse to your guests.

Sing a sharing song; then thank Jesus for friends to share with.

